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(b) February, March, April.
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Feder ("Messiah"), Winchester, Dover, Woodwich ("Creation"), Falkirk ("Messiah"), Winchester, Dover, Woodwich ("Creation"), Dartfod, Freemasons' Hall, New Swindon, City (twice), Guildhall, Camberwell.

March.—Brixton Hall, Halifax ("Lobgesang"), Streatham ("Rose of Sharon"), Corn Exchange, Kilmarnock ("Samson"), Perth (Eljah"), Kensington ("Lobgesang"), Cutler's Hall, Edinburgh ("St. Paul"), City (twice), Bromley ("Crucifixion"), Streatham ("Crucifixion"), Newcastle ("Creation"), Battle, Croydon.

APRIL.—Ryde ("Martyr of Antioch"), Streatham ("Lay of the Bell"), Steinway Hall, Croydon, Kirkealdy ("Mors et Vita"), Brighton (Verdis "Requiem" &c.), Birmingham, High Wycombe ("Elijah"), Southsea (twice), Maidenhead ("Elijah"), Rochester ("Cosi fan tutti"), Briton Ferry ("Creation"), Brewer's Hall, Steinway Hall, May, &c.—Reigate ("Lobgesang"), Hackney ("Pilgrimage of the Rose"), Beckenham ("Bride of Dunkerron"), Marlborough Rooms, Steinway Hall (three times), Kilburn, Barnsbury ("Alfred"), Ingatestone (twice), Blackpool, Croydon (twice), Deal, Crystal Palace, Forest Hill, Surrey Masonic Hall (twice), Southport, Llandudon, &c., &c.

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MISS JEAN HUNTER (Soprano), Medalist R.A.M., Pupil of Manuel Garcia, Esq., is now booking dates for coming season. "Messiah," "Israel," "Judas," "Creation," "Elijah," "St. Paul," "Lobgesang," 95th, 115th, 42nd Psalms, "Stabat" (Rossini), "Naaman," "Holy City," "Faust" (Gounod and Berlioz), "May Queen," &c. New works at short notice. Cromer House, Herbert Road, Plumstead, S.E.

MISS KATHERINE JAMES (Mezzo-Soprano, G to A flat), Medalist and Certificated R.A.M., accepts engagements for Oratorios, Concerts, At Homes, &c., in London and vicinity only. Répertoire includes "Judas," "Athalie," "Stabat Mater," "Eli," "St. Mary Magdalen," &c. Address, 42, Craster Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

MISS JULIA JONES (Soprano vocalist) begs to announce that she has REMOVED to 15, St. Thomas Road, Finsbury Park, N.

MADAME AGNES LARKCOM requests that all letters may be addressed to her at 53, Westbourne Park Villas, W.

MADAME CLARA LEIGHTON (Soprano) re-IVI quests that communications respecting Engagements, &c., be addressed to Bangor House, Iffley Road, Oxford.

MISS FANNIE SELLERS (Soprano) engaged: Harrogate, October 25; Barnoldswick, 28; Llanelly, 30; Uppermill ("Rose Maiden"), 31; Goole, November 10; Greenfield, 14; Sowerby Bridge ("Messiah"), December 15; Blackburn ("Stabat Mater"), 25; others pending. For terms, &c., Crag Cottage, Knaresbro'.

MADAME LAURA SMART (Soprano) requests that all communications respecting Oratorio, Operatic Recital, or Ballad Concerts be addressed, 29, Burton Road, Kilburn, N.W.; or, 50, Church Street, Liverpool.

MISS ALICE A. ANDREWS (Contralto) can accept ENGAGEMENTS for Oratorios, Concerts, Banquets, &c., Address, 97, Great Eastern Street, E.C.; or, Klein's Agency, 43, Oxford Street, W.

M ISS FLORENCE CROFT (Contralto) engaged:
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Pancras Vestry Hall. Polytechnic, Grosvenor Choral Society, Bridgewater, &c. Address, 88, Lady Margaret Road, London, N.

MR. LAWRENCE FRYER (Tenor), St. Paul's Cathedral. For Oratorios, Concerts, &c. Address, 47, Croxted Road, Dulwich; or, The Cathedral.

M. MASKELL HARDY (Tenor). Engagements for Nov.: "Messiah," "Elijah," "Creation," "Samson," "St. Paul," Ballads, &c. 9, Bramfield Road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

M. R. JOSEPH HEALD (Tenor) has REMOVED to 5, Hyde Park Mansions, W.

M R. JAMES LEYLAND (Tenor) is now booking engagements for Season 1891-92. Oratorio, Ballads, &c. Reference kindly permitted to Wm. Shakespeare, Esq. Terms, to 37, Torrington Square, Bloomsbury.

MR. E. JACKSON (Baritone) is now booking envacant dates, address, Principal Bass, New College, Oxford.

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M R. AUGUSTUS BINGHAM (Bass-Baritone) is at liberty to negotiate with professional vocalists for accompanying them, either at his residence or theirs. For terms, &c, address, 8, Tavistock Crescent, Westbourne Park, W.

MR. S. J. BISHOP (Solo Bass, Exeter Cathedral) IVI is now booking Engagements for Season 1891-2. Preson application. Address, 29, Elmside; or, Cathedral, Exeter.

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M. T. WILFORD PRICE (Solo Bass) (late of St. Alban's, Holborn). For Concerts, Oratorios, &c. Repertoire includes: "Elijah," "Messiah," "Creation," "St. Paul," "Judas Maccabews," "Stabat Mater," Last Judgment," "Creifixion," "Holy City," "Daughter of Jairus," "Golden Legend," "Ruth," "Ancient Mariner," "Eri-King's Daughter," "Rosse Maiden," "May Queen," &c. Engaged: October 2, 5, 8, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 30. November 3, 4, 7, 17, and 27. For open dates and terms, address, 75, Kent House Road, Sydenham.

MR. EGBERT ROBERTS (Bass) requests that all communications respecting Oratorios, Opera, or Concerts be addressed, 45, Pentonville Road, N.

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BRIXTON HALL, ACRE LANE, S.W. Thursday, November 19, 1891.

Artists: Madame Adeline Paget, Miss Jessie Hotine, Miss Mary Groebl (by kind permission of R D'Oyly Carte, Esq.), Mr. Iver McKay, Mr. Edward Branscombe, Mr. William Irvine. Violin Solos: M. Tivadar Nachèz. Conductors: Mr. W. Henry Thomas and Mr. H. Lane Wilson.

H. Lane Wisson.

Doors open 7.30; commence at 8 o'clock. Tickets, 5s., 3s., 2s., and ts. each, at Messrs. Novello, Ewer and Co.'s; or, of Mr. William Irvine, 144, Stockwell Park Road, S.W.

#### GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.

The WINTER SERIES of FREE RECITALS will be given on the following dates:— November 12 and 26

December 10 and 26 January 14 and 28 February 11 and 25 March 10 and 24

C. LEE WILLIAMS, 7, Palace Yard, Gloucester.

ST. ANDREW'S, THORNHILL SQUARE, N.—
Monday Evening, November 30, at 8 o'clock, Mendelssohn's PSALM will be sung; also a Selection of Vocal and Organ Music. During the winter months "Song of Miriam" (Schubert, "How lovely are Thy dwellings" (Spohr), "Hear my prayer," 13th Psalm (Mendelssohn), and other works will be sung. Gentlemen willing to assist, or ladies or gentlemen willing to take part in Solo Anthems, please address, Mr. F. J. Marchment, 94, John Street, Thornhill Square, N.

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A GRAND RECITAL of Herold's Opera ZAMPA will be given in the Exchange Hall, Blackburn, on December 2, with full Band and Chorus of 220 Performers.

Miss PHOEBE MERCER.

PRINCIPAL VOCALISTS.

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Leader: Signor Risegari.

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#### COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS.

The Examinations for F.C.O. and A.C.O. will take place on January 12, 13, 14, and January 19, 20, 21; and on July 12, 13, 14, and July 19, 20, 21. The Annual College Dinner will take place on April 25. Lectures will be given on the first Tuesday in each month from November to June. November 3.—A paper will be read by T. Casson, Esq., on "Organ Combination Actions."

December 1.—A paper will be read by F. Gilbert Webb, Esq., on "Psalm Accompaniments."

Annual General Meeting on July 26.

The Solo-playing test pieces for Fellowship at the forthcoming Christmas Examination in January will be: Sonata for Organ, No. 1, J. S. Bach); Fantasia and Fugue in E minor (Silas); and Sonata in D minor, No. 5, Op. 118 (Merkel).

A competition for the Meadowcroft Anthem Prize (open to all composers), 8 guineas, is hereby announced. MSS. must be sent in on or before February 1, 1892. Full particulars on application.

E. H. TURPIN, Hon. Secretary.

Hart Street, Bloomsbury, W.C. The Examinations for F.C.O. and A.C.O. will take place on January

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N.B.—The College Library and Rooms will be Open Daily, for the use of Members, from 10 to 5, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 9

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The Meetings are held at 8 o'clock on the and Tuesday of the month, at the Royal Academy of Music. The new Session begins on November 10, 1891. Prospectus and other particulars of the Association may be had on application to the Assistant-Secretary.

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Next Examination for Diplomas A.C.C.G. and F.C.C.G., January

Next Examination for Diplomas A.C.C.G. and 21, 1892.

Free Register of Appointments open to Members and the Clergy.
On Nov. 16, 6 p.m., at Luton Parish Church, a Choral Festival
will be held. Organists: Mr. F. Gostelow, A.R.A.M., F.C.C.G.; Dr.
F. J. Karn; Dr. J. H. Lewis. Members willing to assist in the Choir
are kindly requested to send in their Names at once.
Nov. 26, 5 p.m., at 35, Wellington St., W.C., Lecture on "Ecclesiastical Counterpoint," by F. J. KARN, Mus. D.; to be followed by an
Organ Recital on the New Electric Organ.
For further particulars, see Church Musician; or, apply to The
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#### CHORAL CONDUCTORS' ALLIANCE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Large Hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, Aldersgate Street, on SATURDAY, November 28, 1891, when the President, JOSEPH BARNEY, Esq., will give a few words on

"THE ART OF CONDUCTING."

Chair to be taken at 6 p.m by Dr. A. C. Mackenzie. Tickets of Admission can be obtained by forwarding stamped envelope to Arthur Briscoe, Hon. Sec., 61, Richmond Road, Dalston, N.E.

UILD OF ORGANISTS (for Church Organists only,...-Patron, the Bishop of London; President, Sir Herbert Oakeley, Mus.D., LL.D. Festival Service at St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith, Nov. 19, at 8 p.m. Examination for Fellowship, Jan. 7, 1892. Burlington Hall, Savile Row, W.; H. C. Young, Hon. Sec

#### UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

The next Examinations for the Degree of Bachelor of Music will be held in Durham in September next.
Full particulars, with Specimen Papers of former Examinations, may be had on application to Dr. Armes, The Bailey, Durham.

#### THE ORPHEUS CLUB

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This Society offers a prize of ≤500 for the best original composition for male voices, submitted in competition therefor, under the terms and conditions hereinbelow set forth:—

1. The composition must be in Cantata form, and written to English words, which may be sacred or secular; it must be written for a male chorus of forty, and must contain solo or concerted parts for Soprano and Baritone: it must have orchestral accompanifor Soprano and Baritone: it must have orchestral accompaniment, to which an organ part may be added if the composer wishes, a large organ being ready available; and it should occupy about forty-five minutes in performance.

2. The composition awarded the prize, and the American Copyright thereof, will be the property of the Club.

3. The composition must be melodious and vocal—i.e., thoroughly singable, and effective when sung, and not merely technically meritorious.

1. Compositions intended for competition must be sent to the Sorge-

4. Compositions intended for competition must be sent to the Secre-

Compositions intended for competition must be sent to the Sectetary of the Committee not later than January 15, 1892.
 Each manuscript must be signed by a nom de plume or motto, and must be accompanied by a sealed envelope (which will not be opened until the award is made) containing the nom de plume or motto and a return address. The unsuccessful compositions can thus be returned without the writer's name being known.

The Judges of the Competition will be Mr. Cross, the Conductor of the Orpheus Club, and two representative American musicians whose

names will be shortly announced.

The decision of the Judges will be made public as soon as possible after January 15, 1892. The successful competition will be sung by the Club, in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, in April, 1892, at the last Concert of the Twentieth Season of the Organisation.

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M.R. H. C. TONKING desires that all communica-dies addressed to his private residence only, 5, Hyde Park Mansions, London, W.

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The NEXT EXAMINATION in all branches of Music will be held at centres as above, in December, when Silver and Bronze Medals and Book Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the Regulations. The LAST DAY for ENTERING NAMES is November 14.

The SYLLABUS of the various Examinations, and ENTRY FORMS, may be had on application.

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AND SINGING-CLASS CIRCULAR.

NOVEMBER 1, 1891.

#### A RICHMOND IDYLL.

In the Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson, written by his wife, she tells the little love-history that preceded their marriage; and woven in with the story is, by happy chance, the figure of a certain Master of Music and Court musician to King Charles I. It was indeed this personage who unconsciously took upon himself the important part in the drama of go-between or bringer-together of hero and heroine; and Mrs. Hutchinson treats him as such, scarcely deigning to mention his name. She keeps the reader on a stretch of curiosity through two pages as to what particular musician of the period this might happen to be, before the exigencies of an involved and elaborate sentence seem to force it from her. The name comes at last; and since the point of view changes with the time and the individual, this little history may be regarded to-day with an interest not exclusively bound up in its matrimonial issues.

Between the years 1636 and 1638 the young children of Charles I. resided at Sheen Palace, near Richmond, with their governors and instructors; and at Richmond one Charles Coleman likewise had a house, primarily, no doubt, for the convenience of his profession as Court musician, but in which it seems he boarded persons of distinction. He also gave private music lessons in town; and one of his London pupils at this time was John Hutchinson, son of Sir Thomas Hutchinson, Member of Parliament for Nottingham. This young man had lately finished his education at Cambridge; and finding life uncongenial in his father's country household, where a second small family was springing up, he had repaired to London, there to study law at Lincoln's Inn. Here he varied his severer course of study by lighter subjects, and took lessons in dancing, fencing, and music; and apparently then, as later, gave considerable attention to his apparel.\* He had some natural aptitude for music, which was still an indispensable part of a gentleman's education, and he had already practised it at Cambridge. Later in life, when practised it at Cambridge. Later in life, when he had withdrawn in proud disapproval from Cromwell's rule, he taught it to his children, and "entertained tutors" for them for music in his country house. He "entertained" at this period some of the "best" for himself, for being "loth to leave off before he had perfected" his cunning hand upon the viol, "was at some expense that way." Yet, with all these resources, our young man was not satisfied. He found law very little to his liking, and since the spring plague was abroad (1636 or 1637), his restless mind had an excuse for movement. But where should he go? He would

have journeyed to France with a merchant he knew, but that the man must start before a messenger could speed and return from Nottinghamshire with his father's consent; and this, to a dutiful son, was a detriment. His music-master coming in just at a moment of debate, John Hutchinson poured into his ears his difficulty. Mr. Charles Colemannot yet Mus. Doc.—was a man of parts, and without doubt genial and astute, for he had at once a suggestion to offer to his perplexed pupil. Now, why should not Mr. Hutchinson, since he needed change of air, repair to the master's house at Richmond? There he could promise him ample board, cheerful society. plenty of that diversion that hovers round a Court: and, besides all this, at Richmond were kept the King's hawks. What more could be needed above that plenitude of music which was too much a matter of course for mention? Besides, we never speak of what we have in most abundance. Certainly, to the youth grown gloomy in solitary chambers, with law books and viol for company, the prospect was tempting: to Richmond he would go.

But before he went, a friend tried to dissuade him from it, for what to our ears sounds a very quaint reason. Never was there a place, this solemn friend affirmed, "so fatal for love" as Richmond. Why, he knew of a young man who had gone to lodge there blithe and well, but finding the people of the place lamenting the death of a certain lady unknown to him, he had begun to take a strange and morbid interest in the subject himself. Then he had grown melancholy and moping and love-sick for the dead fair one; had frequented a "mount" where the print of the lady's foot was cut, and would lie there pining and kissing it; till finally, in a few months' time, death had kindly "concluded his languish-ment." Now cheerful Charles Coleman would doubtless have been very angry if he had heard this deterring narrative; but fortunately it did not rob him of his boarder. No! John Hutchinson stoutly stood by his purpose; and went forward, warned, to hazard his fate at the sunny village, girdled by green meadow and by shining Thames.

The house and its inmates proved all the musician had promised. To the little circle of boarders Charles Coleman played the courteous host; while outside this was the wider circle of Court musicians who were constantly in and out to talk of, or to practise. new music.

Beyond this professional set, again, were the fashionable idlers, drawn by the Court, who apparently found Mr. Coleman's house, and the music going on therein, one of the attractions of the place. They attended rehearsals there; among them, just as now, "divers that were affected with music; others that were not, yet took that pretence to entertain themselves with the company." And so these fine folk seem to have got hearing of the best performers of the day, and of the newest music from the highest talents, for nothing-or, at least, for neither subscription nor payment at the door, but, possibly, for just a little of that obliging civility to the man of music (who gave so much) which it is expressly stated they extended to his London boarder.

But John Hutchinson cared greatly for none of them. He may have been even a little shy as well as proud. At all events, he liked best a young girl in the house, who had been "tabled there for the practice of her lute" while her mother, widow of Sir Allen Apsley, was absent on a marriage quest concerning an elder daughter. To little Mistress Apsley he gave the most of his attention. He loved to listen to her

The Puritanical lady naively observes, 'he wore good and rich clothes, and had a variety of them, and had them well suited and in every way answerable; in that little thing, showing both good judgment and great generosity, he equally becoming them and they him, which he wore with such equal unaffectedness and such neatness as we do not often meet in one." Not very different, this, from Polonius's worldly policy in clothes!

1 The predilection of the age for a musical household, and the choice often made of servants with a view to their use in concerted music, is seen in Pepys' diary. An earlier instance occurs in this life of Colonel Hutchinson, where, in connection with an attempt made to to him of his arms during his absence from Owthorpe, mention is made of "a singing-boy who kept the Colonel's Clothes."

1 Does this mean that hospitality was offered to the music-master on his professional visits; or is it only a frugal dame's mode of explaining that the instruction was paid for?

1 The word "entertain" means to be courteous or civil, to extend hospitality to, rather than to employ. Compare Hebrews xiii. 2.—

ED. M. T.]

<sup>\*</sup> Mrs. Hutchinson expressly says that they came there "to practise new airs and prepare them for the King."

lute-music, and doubtless himself might call up a opportunity. He at once, and most wrongly, declared little admiration on her side by that "mastery on the viol" that we are told he possessed. Indeed, we may well suppose that in the face of such high-class professional merit all around them, these young amateurs would have need to console each other with a little praise. And with this innocent and indiscreet little person John was wont to stroll forth, and would follow her sometimes to her mother's house which stood hard by, the keys of which she held-since it had seemingly been thought prudent, during that marriage crusade after a far-away Wiltshire gentleman, to close the establishment. While the two were there one day, and were even roaming at large amidst the private and individual properties of the elder sister's "closet," John espied on an "odd by-shelf" (meant, no doubt, to elude the general eye) a few tomes in the Latin tongue. He enquired eagerly whose these were, and hearing that they belonged to his little friend's sister Lucy, he began to be very curious about this young lady, to think of her a great deal, and to wish she were not gone on so hazardous an errand. But that errand made her a present object of interest to the neighbourhood. frequenters of Coleman's house were constantly asking the little sister if the marriage were to come off, and in this way our love-sickening youth was able to satisfy his curiosity without exciting attention. From the ladies he learnt that she was "reserved and studious," which they intended as no commendation at all; but as John's passion seems to have sprung from a literary basis, this did not check it, and he was eager for more, which, however, seemed hard to get. It was quite a lucky chance for us as for him-that discovered an admirer, and drew forth a eulogium that completely matched his ideas of the lady of his imagination. The chance was this. There happened to be a large musical gathering at Coleman's-whether formal or informal is not said. The professionals would be there in the liveries of the King; possibly, as vocal music was performed, some of the singers also from the Royal Chapels. The fashionable amateurs-gentlemen in doublets and spurs and long hair, with beaver hats and gay cloaks and gloves thrown aside; ladies attired in imitation of that elegant simplicity introduced by the queen, with natural curls and undistended petticoats -would sit about, no doubt, with nonchalant and superior airs. A musical fop, by a stroke of his peaked beard, or by a tilt of his eyebrow, might silently express his criticism on a carelessly executed "Division" by some great viol performer, or thus indirectly intimate (since to the composer's face he could not say it) that John Jenkins' last new Fancy was not quite equal to his expectation. While of flighty maidens, giggling to a neighbour all through a "Pavan" or a "Galliard," or even during the enthrallment of a "new court Ayre," there would doubtless be a few. It was an unrestrained company; and when a song was sung "that had been lately set" they all fell to talking of it. It was the verses and not the music, it seems, that were chiefly discussed; and some one present undertook in rivalry to produce a poem then in the house that would "answer to" this one. It was accordingly brought and read to the company, with the guarded admission that it was believed to have been written by a lady of the neighbourhood. Then the writer of the first song (who had doubtless received a few compliments-the composer, perhaps a professional, being left out) gallantly declared that there were but two women he knew who were capable of writing it; either one present, whom he named writing it; either one present, whom he named son, "pretunding civility," begged her to remain till (merely as a compliment, her rival assures us), or supper was over, when he could escort her home Mistress Lucy Apsley. Here was John Hutchinson's himself. By this manœuvre he would see her sister

his disbelief in its being a woman's work at all, going as it did so much beyond "the customary reach of a she-wit." This put song-writer number one on his mettle for gallant generosity; he launched forth in the most extravagant praise of the absent lady, and declared her besides to be "the nicest creature in the world of suffering her perfections to be known." John swallowed all this, and wanted more; and doubt. less the talk fell back all too soon for him to purely musical and occasional matters. It would have been hard for the ladies if it were not so; and possibly the next piece for rehearsal was waited for. Those Court musicians might, smilingly watchful, have been holding arched bows in readiness to touch strings in some concerted Fantasia until these hot headed young men had ceased contending and praising their fair one. But at the signal for recommencement, that Coleman, or Ferrabosco, possibly might give, the whole scene for us disappears. We hear, any way, no more of the music, only that John waited for the absent one's return with a growing impatience.

One day, as the household sat at table, there

entered a footboy of Lady Apsley's to announce her present return. At once—for nothing seems to have been kept private in those days-the company clamoured to know if the marriage was to come off. The boy seemed prepared for the question, and drew forth some bride laces (wedding-trappings of the time), which he gave severally to young Mistress Apsley and to Mistress Coleman, the daughter of the house. He had been bidden, he said, to deliver these tokens without further speech. This was considered conclusive proof that the marriage had already taken place. John Hutchinson without more ado went deadly pale; and professing sickness-he felt sick enough, in truth-left the table. But into the garden, whither he went, he was followed by Mr. Coleman, anxious and solicitous; and to get rid of the tiresome attentions of his host, he declared himself ill, and took to his bed. Perhaps he barred his door: anyway, he enjoyed a solitude that enabled him to ruminate on the strange feelings that disturbed him, and to bethink him of the "warning" that he had spurned. He gave his wife to understand by subsequent accounts that his miseries through this night were great indeed; and she appears to have thought his fortitude very considerable that in his state he should have got up next day. However, for this great resolution he was rewarded. He met the footboy; and by a little judicious inquiry elicited the healing fact that there had been no marriage at all, that it was "off"; and that the bride-laces had been got at some one else's wedding, and were a ruse-to raise a laugh, may be, that might save Mistress Lucy's imperilled dignity. At any rate, she was to return an unengaged spinster, and young John had nothing to do but wait for that event with hope. He still played his viol, no doubt, and enjoyed himself; for we are told that about that time a nameless lady of Richmond was invited by a courtier, "one that was her servant," to a day's entertainment in Sion Garden, with the choice of her company. She carried thither with her Mistress Coleman, the musician's daughter, little Mistress Apsley, and John Hutchinson; and among the green alleys and bowers and arbours of the pleasure ground (where once gentleeyed, low-voiced nuns were wont to roam) these unfettered young people seem to have passed a merry time. They were seated at supper when a messenger appeared to tell Mistress Apsley that her mother had just stepped from her coach. The maid would have gone on the instant, but young Hutchin-

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his mind as he awaited it was such that he could not eat. Thus, one spring evening, John and Lucy met, the heroine appearing (she tells us) "not ugly in a careless riding-habit," while he was all, in clothes, and looks, and goodness, that a maiden heart-of

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The course of pre-conceived love in this case ran smooth, except for one sad touch of realism. On the very day that the friends on both sides assembled to conclude the marriage, the bride fell sick of the smallpox. Not only was her life in danger for a time, but her face was terribly disfigured. Yet John Hutchinson insisted on marrying her the first day that she was able to leave her room, though "the priest and all that saw her were affrighted to look at her." It was long, we are told, before she regained her good looks.

With the betrothal vanish all traces from the history of Coleman and his fellows. They were accessories; when John Hutchinson withdrew from their midst, they ceased for his wife to be. Yet through this little Richmond idyll we have a glimpse of their lives that suggests pleasantness and ease. They had plenty of communion with each other, plenty of intercourse with the outside world, and plenty of appreciation from it, along with an assured position. These matters are important to the life of art; it was in such conditions as these, multiplied by the many petty courts of Germany, that the seeds of her great modern instrumental school germinated. And these men about the Richmond Court in those far-off times-cunning instrumentalists, all of them-were rapidly developing a school of their own. In one sense, and vocally, the times seemed degenerate. The old, many-voiced madrigal was dying in favour of the new-fangled solo, with accompaniment of lute or bass viol, written largely by the King's old tutor and favourite, Coperario, by Ferrabosco, and by Coperario's pupil, Henry Lawes. But the older "In nomines" and "Fantasias" for string instruments, grounded on contrapuntal and vocal bases, were being wrought over by these very men who practised at Coleman's into new and quickening forms, blent of rhythmical movement and modern tonality. They were popularly termed "Fancies" (a name under which they were later flouted at), but they were practically Suites or "Lessons" for concerted instruments, and they contained the germ of the later developed Sonata. All these men, whose names we know from other sources, were writers of that instrumental music in parts, which was then becoming the Charles Coleman is acknowpassion of the period. passion of the period. Charles Coleman is acknow-ledged by un-musical Mrs. Hutchinson as a "skilful composer in music," and his works were printed in the collections of the time. Others there were, notable and talented; but greatest amongst them was John Jenkins, the little man with a great soul (as old Antony tersely put it), whose fame must about that time have been spreading beyond the Court and its coteries.

He and the rest little dreamt, as they passed in and out of that Richmond house about the year 1637, ardent and full of artistic activity, starting that infant school that promised to wax and flourishthat were in store for them. King, court, musicians that were in store for them. King, court, musicians all were presently to vanish: the very palace where the princes had lodged at Richmond was to be razed to the ground by an angry Parliament. Young John, hero of our idyll, became colonel of the Parliament's army, leader of armed men in that warfare of kindred against kindred, signer of the

at the earliest possible moment; and the agitation of King's death warrant even; and was finally to die miserably in prison. Our musicians—no longer a body—were tossed hither and thither as struggling units in a strong sea of circumstance. While some fought for their master-William Lawes, passionate and faithful, whose music we yet may con, lay a bloody corpse at Chester siege—others, homeless and officeless, did what they could, made music for who would listen, and became the recipients of private bounty. Kingston alone of them trimmed his sail to political weather, and gained favour with Cromwell. Coleman, bland and business-like as he shows himself in Mrs. Hutchinson's narrative, did fairly well by teaching and perhaps selling his music, and it was in this period that he took his Mus. Doc. degree. At any rate, he survived that disastrous time, along with Jenkins, who, beloved by all, had remained a favourite guest in country gentlemen's houses, cheerfully making new "Fancies" for them, and leading their little orchestras. The one was honoured, at the Restoration, with the title of Com-poser to King Charles II.; the other, once more "Court Musician," put forward in print in his old age those "Twelve Sonatas" for a quartet of instruments that formed almost the last page of this English book of art.

> But their lives were practically over; they were old men, and their art, long benumbed, proved dead. The chain of development was broken; an active school of instrumental concerted music had ceased

#### THE GREAT COMPOSERS.

By Joseph Bennett.

No. XXVIII .- WAGNER (continued from page 587).

THERE can be little need to head this, the first of two supplementary chapters upon the character and characteristic traits of Richard Wagner, with an apology for being personal. Such men belong not to themselves but to the public, and it may be said for the composer of the "Nibelungen" that he was fully aware of the fact. Not only so, he himself invited and contributed materials for the study of his own individuality. There was nothing shy about Wagner. In the preface to his "Censuren" we read: "But my object in this collection is something more serious than to write books; I am desirous of rendering an account of myself to my friends, so that they may be enlightened with regard to much that is difficult to be understood in me." Having thus put himself forward as a subject of study, Wagner could not complain of after investigation and comment. To do him justice, he did not.

In the course of these papers it has been necessary often to speak of Wagner's money troubles, and to indicate their origin by reference to his extravagant expenditure upon personal surroundings. In one case, as may be remembered, the composer referred to certain luxuries as necessities of his nature-as that for which, in some unexplained way, his soul craved because essential to the proper exercise of his powers. We do not mention this for the purpose of deriding it. There may be little evidence in the history of musicians tending to show that a splendid environment is an aid to composition, but we are not entitled to limit the curious and recondite in human It is said of Haydn that, before sitting down to an important work, he dressed himself with care, and always put a diamond ring upon his finger. one will dare to say that this was mere affectation or whim. The orderly attire and the sparkling gem had, no doubt, an occult influence over the old master when his imagination began to act and his pen to

<sup>\*</sup> The writer has found pieces by him copied into contemporaneous MS. volumes now lying in the Bodleian, a proof of their use and popularity.

Wagner's case, as will fully appear, was an exaggeration of the same phenomenon, and as such cannot fail to prove of interest to students of his peculiar character.

In the year 1877 a Viennese dealer in musical manuscripts and such like treasures issued a catalogue in which appeared the following paragraph:

"Wagner, Richard: sixteen letters, mostly from Lucerne in Switzerland, with some from Munich and its environs, dating from the years 1865-68, and one of the year 1864, from Penzing (near Vienna)—all these letters are of a peculiar nature—with nine interesting

documents extra, relating to them."

This item in the dealer's list attracted the attention of Herr Spitzer, a journalist and litterateur connected, it would appear, with the Neue Freie Presse, who himself tells us that "the somewhat high price demanded for these letters slightly diminished my wish to purchase them, though it greatly increased my curiosity." The MSS, were eventually bought by another person for 100 florins, but it is uncertain whether the purchaser acted on his own account or merely as Spitzer's agent. At any rate, they passed into the hands of the last-named, and were published in the Neue Freie Presse without delay. There is no positive answer to the question how these documents "of a peculiar nature" got into the market, but it is, of course, conceivable that the lady to whom they were addressed determined to avail herself of the Wagner "boom" following the production of the "Nibelungen" in 1876, and turn into money that which was otherwise profitless. The lady referred to was a certain Viennese dressmaker, Bertha by name, with whom Wagner had had business dealings prior to the date of the first letter in the collection. This is clear, because the note written from Penzing in 1864 acknowledges the lady's application for money, and promises satisfaction of her demand "the very instant it is Tradeswoman and customer preserved their mutual connection, and, in the year following, Wagner writes again, from Starnberg, near Munich, explaining that he wishes Bertha permanently to act as his dressmaker because she is "acquainted with the models which I use for my house clothes, &c., and it is difficult to find here a good stock of materials from which to choose." Wagner goes on to say that the account should be an annual one, to be settled always at the end of the year. Then follows a string of questions relating to articles of dress, and referring more especially to patterns of brown, pink, and blue satin which were enclosed. We next read: "Has Szontag a sufficient stock of the new red or crimson coloured heavy satin, with which you lined my white dressing gown (with the flowered pattern)?" About the pink satin he is very particular, and writes in a postscript: "Do not confound No. 2, the dark pink, with the old violet pink, which is not what I mean, but real pink, only very dark and fiery." may assume from this solicitude that the very dark and fiery pink was congenial in some mental mood or state of feeling.

From certain expressions in the next letter, it appears that Bertha made objection to a yearly reckoning and stipulated for something on account, perhaps for something in advance, since we find Wagner writing: "In case the money intended for the fresh purchases is not sufficient, I now forward twenty-five thalers more." The main object of this second epistle is to order a dressing-gown—a gorgeous and costly garment hardly to be matched in the universal wardrobe. But as to its quality and appearance the reader shall judge for himself—especially for herself, since only the feminine mind can fully enter into the conception of such a wondrous

Bertha in Wagner's own handwriting, accompanied by two drawings, in which the master appears as a pen-and-ink artist :-

"Pink satin, stuffed with eider down and quilted in squares, like the grey and red coverlet which I had of you; exactly that substance, light, not heavy; of course with the upper and under material quilted together. Lined with light satin, six widths at the bottom, therefore very wide. Then put on extranot sewn on to the quilted material—a padded ruching all round of the same material; from the waist the ruching must extend downwards into a raised facing (or garniture) cutting off the front part.

"Study the drawing carefully; at the bottom the facing or Schopp, which must be worked in a particularly rich and beautiful manner, is to spread out on both sides to half an ell in width, and then, rising to the waist, lose itself in the ordinary width of the padded ruching which runs all round. At the side of the raised facing, three or four rosettes of the same material. The sleeves, like the last you made for me in Geneva, with padded edging-rich; in front a rosette, with a broader and richer one inside, at the bottom of the part which hangs down. addition to this, a broad sash five ells long, the full breadth of the material at the ends, only somewhat narrower in the middle; the shoulders narrower so that the sleeves shall not pull, you know. So at the bottom, six widths (quilted), and on each side a facing, half an ell broad."

A writer who has had the privilege of seeing

Wagner's drawings thus describes them:-"The sketch of the dressing gown reveals extraordinary accomplishments after the bestmodels in the book of fashions. The quilted squares are executed The 'raised facing' and 'rosettes' exhibit broad handling of the pen and an energetic hand. The 'padded facing' in front is fantastically executed after the manner of Callot. And what life in the whole! The master's love for his work has lent animation to the latter, as Pygmalion's did to the statue. Nay; this dressing-gown has a soul; the eider down pulsates in the quilted squares; the ruchings are not padded, they are puffed out with sentiment; the rosettes breathe again."

On February 8, 1867, Wagner wrote further to "Dear Miss Bertha," expressing surprise that his letter ordering the glorious dressing-gown remained unanswered. He complained, also, that some roses which had been sent by her were not good enough. "I beg of you at any rate to see about procuring some thirty of the finest and handsomest roses," at ten florins the ell. We gather from a subsequent letter that Miss Bertha declined to undertake the dressing-gown until an old account had been settled. Wagner writes: "We will, for the present, say no more about the dressing-gown, as your claims have not yet been settled, and I have still something to send you. I now forward, however, seventy-five thalers." Out of these thalers the dressmaker was to pay for new roses.

In one of the letters was enclosed an account which gives us a good idea of the master's extensive dealings with Bertha, and the more than Eastern magnificence of his taste. It included 300 ells of satin in thirteen colours, from crimson to light grey; sixty ells of rose wreaths (these, no doubt, are the "roses" before mentioned); six pairs of satin shoes various colours, adorned with rose bouquets; a laced shirt, many ribbons, embroidery, and so on; the whole cost amounting to 3,010 florins. On March 19 Wagner sent the dressmaker 2,500 florins, and some into the conception of such a wondrous instructions as to further commissions: "I must Here are the directions forwarded to especially beg you to choose the pink satin ribbon

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obl Sto Ne and vou you refe we require of better quality and, if possible, not of so red a tint, but of the bluish shade which you know. I should also like to learn the price of the pink satin with which the Baroness's portfolio is lined . . . I florins; may I, therefore, beg some patterns and prices?"

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Bertha, having the 2,500 florins, promptly carried out her customer's orders, and Wagner returned "best thanks for the things which arrived to-day." But the famous pink dressing-gown was not in the parcel, and the master's soul longed for that vision of beauty. "You say nothing about the pink dressing-gown," he complains. "Please give me notice when you despatch it." More orders followed: 100 ells of the "rose-satin pattern which I herewith return, only the texture must be somewhat smoother, just as it is in the green pattern, not so much body, but very open, as being more lustrous than the large pattern. Meanwhile, you can send the remainder-20 ells-of the enclosed pale pink, and, if it is cheap, the remainder -38 ells—of the green. Of the heavy pink satin . . . I could find a use for twelve more. Enquire at the ribbon shop of the Silver Wreath . . . whether they have still any of the very broad, stout, pink and blue satin ribbon which I once saw there; it was for scarves, and probably a quarter of an ell broad. . . Some very good narrow lace would be useful."

At last the longed-for dressing-gown arrived, and when the master had put it on and taken a good look at his radiant self, he confessed that it had turned out pretty much as he wished it. Acknowledging receipt of his glorified garment, Wagner gave more orders, desiring, as he said, "to be provided with everything for some little time." He wanted "6 more pieces of the best pink ribbon; one or two pieces of orange ribbon; the same of good light yellow ribbon; some more nice silk blond, if possible, and 12 ells of a very beautiful white satin, very soft."

Having made good the omission of the pink satin coverlet, and given the orders just described, Wagner is still unsatisfied, and, in a postscript, throws the rein to his passion for satin, laces, and dressing-gowns. He asks for the following: 176 ells of satin, white, grey, rose, and light blue; one pink dressing-gown, one blue ditto, one green ditto (with rose ribbons); one dark green ditto, without embroidery, ruching, or sash, simply with white facings; two blue coverlets; two large pillows (embroidered), all to be trimmed; one large embroidered coverlet." In a subsequent letter Wagner promises to send 500 florins after a day or so, and is very anxious about rose garlands: "Pray send immediately whatever is ready of the garlands ordered." The number of these was increased, and the master intimated that he could do with twenty or thirty ells of lace. Bertha did what was required of her, and Wagner acknowledged in quite a gushing manner. It will be seen in the following letter that his craving for pink satin was still unsatisfied :-

"Dear Miss Bertha,-Everything has arrived, and I thank you extremely. I am waiting for your account, and hope soon to prove my grateful satisfaction with what you have done. Only we have not a sufficiency of the pink satin, and could very well take thirty or forty ells more. God knows how much is required, if we want to do things well. I should feel obliged if you could get it for me soon. Madame Stocker asks me to give you her best remembrances. Next year I shall very likely come again to Vienna, and shall be pleased to see you. Accept my thanks, you true soul, and with them the cordial greeting of

your obedient,-R. WAGNER.

Another letter, dated January 18, 1868, evidently refers to the satin mentioned in that just quoted. In coverlets by night ministered, though in a fashion

it Wagner observes: "I think that, as the satin is not particularly heavy, but pleases me by its colour, you had better get twenty ells at once and send them to me. We can find a use for them." The last letter touches the great money question, for pink satin

entails responsibilities. Here Wagner writes:—
"Dear young lady,—I herewith send what I can spare you for the present, so that you may at least see that I think of you. If I can manage it, something more shall follow, only until autumn I

myself am somewhat pressed for cash."

With this the published correspondence ends, and the writer whose words have already been cited

thus bitterly comments :-

"After perusing the above letters, I think the reader will consider that the motto, 'Wie gleicht er dem Weibe' ('How like the woman!'), which I prefixed to them is justified. The words are uttered by Hunding, in 'Die Walküre,' after scanning the features of his guest, Siegmund. Hunding then remarks: 'The deceitful worm gleams from out his eyes.' When we read these letters, addressed to a milliner; when we see how exclusively and with what deep interest the writer discourses in them of finery; and when we learn what large sums are squandered upon the glossy satin, we should think, save for the signature, that the letters were the letters of a woman. Wagner prefaces the ninth volume of his 'Collected Writings and Poems' with a poem addressed by him, in January, 1871, 'to the German army before Paris. In it we read:

Es rafft im Krampf Zu wildem Kampf Sich auf des eitlen Wahns Bekenner: Der Welt doch züchtet Deutschland nur noch Männer.

('Convulsively the believers in a vain delusion rise for the wild struggle; but it is Germany alone which

still breeds men for the world.')

"The heroic German host would never have achieved their immortal victories had all the men whom Germany 'breeds' become as effeminate as he who sang their praise. Our great men have never lost anything in the eyes of the world by the publication of their familiar correspondence. For this they have been indebted, not to the delicacy of the persons who published their letters, but to their own

characters and dispositions."

It would be easy to continue remarks in the style of the foregoing, since, of all human weaknesses, a love of finery is, in a man, the most contemptible. Oliver Goldsmith was a bit of a dandy by nature, yet he says that "a person whose clothes are extremely fine resembles those Indians who are found to wear all the gold they have in the world in a bob at the nose." the gold they have in the world in a book. That, however, was not Wagner's case, and here comes in the strangeness of the whole matter. few gifted men have been without their foibleswithout adding to the evidence in support of Carlyle's assertion that humanity is "the great inscrutable mystery of God"-but we may well doubt whether any one of them can be cited as a parallel instance to Wagner's effeminate liking for frills and furbelows, laces and satins, ruchings, quiltings, and all the rest of it. None such can be found among musicians, who, as a body, are noted rather for their indifference to splendid raiment than for a love of it. But Wagner was an altogether exceptional being, whom no student of human nature can attempt to explain on general principles without befogging himself and his hearers. Of one thing, however, we may be assured. Wagner was no hypocrite. He did not wear pink satin dressing gowns and embroidered rose wreaths simply to make an effect on others, by means which his soul abhorred. That was not his way, and we may take it that gorgeous apparel by day and resplendent

none of us may quite understand, to the necessities of his nature. The story goes of him that he adapted the colour of his raiment to the work he had to do by some mysterious process of selection. Even that may have been the case, for who shall limit the strange developments of human nature? It is not our inclination, therefore, to deride the famous correspondent of "Miss Bertha." His taste, so long as he could afford to indulge it, was harmless, and the worst rebuke it deserves is no more cutting than the smile of amusement irresistibly called up when one pictures Wagner as a radiant vision in pink satin.

(To be concluded.)

WE desire again to call the attention of our readers to the proposed issue, on December 5, of a special Mozart Centenary supplement to The Musical TIMES for that month. It will consist of thirty-two pages, and contain, besides a biographical sketch of the master and a paper on his genius and works, a number of interesting extracts from a variety of sources with reference to his qualities and the circumstances of his career. A considerable number of illustrations, including many portraits, and views of places made memorable by association with the great musician, will be given "in the text." There will also be a special portrait of Mozart by Professor Hubert Herkomer, R.A.

WILLIAM SHIELD, although he lived the greater part of his life in London and was buried in Westminster Abbey, is knit to the North by the triple ties of birth, of training, and of trade; and for these reasons those public spirited gentlemen, with Mr. John Robinson at their head, who make it their aim to erect monuments in the neighbourhood of Newcastle-on-Tyne to those of their compatriots who have achieved fame, were well advised in pressing the claims of the harmonious boat-builder, the pupil of Avison, and the coiner of some of the most splendid melodies in English music. Their appeal for subscriptions was liberally answered, and on Monday, the 19th ult., the memorial cross erected to Shield in Whickham Churchyard was unveiled by Dr. Hodgkin, the eminent historian and antiquary. Special interest was lent to the ceremony by the reading of an eloquent address from the brilliant pen of Mr. Joseph Cowen. The following passage sets forth Shield's claim to recognition very truly, as well as the value of music in a utilitarian age: "I do not claim for William Shield one of the loftiest pedestals in our national Walhalla, or for his profession a chief place in the catalogue of the useful arts. It would be exaggeration to do so. Every man cannot be first, and no profession can be paramount. There are dissimilarities as well as degrees of eminence. We recognise equally the merits of the flexile willow and the sturdy oak. So we may admire the melodious and graceful, the unaffected and impressive compositions of Shield, although they do not display the depth of feeling or power of genius apparent in Beethoven's colossal Symphonies; or the epical conception and idyllic charm conspicuous in Haydn's oratorios. Music, too, may not have, like steam and machinery, created wealth and aggrandised the State, but it alleviates labour and cheers the heart; it soothes the imagination and refines the taste; it elevates the feelings and chastens manners." Mr. Cowen dwelt sympathetically on the excellences of the man as well as of the artist. "He is said to alluded to Shield's view of the lyric stage as more than a avenues, addressing the eye by its decorations, the ear of St. Cecilia proposes to render. As to the musical

by its harmonies, and the imagination by its embellishments, it should be made an educational agency for refining the mind and improving the morals. It was this lofty conception of his profession that Shield started with, and through shadow and sunshine never swerved from. His life was artistic, but it was not artificial. He acquired by toilsome experience and independent thought what others accept on authority, It is pleasant to know that when he is far beyond the sound of their voices or the clasp of their hands, that he still retains a place in the admiration of the people of the village he loved so sincerely, and whose meadows and streams, whose woodlands and sunsets, he linked in fancy and affection with imperishable melody." The cross, which is of simple but artistic contour, bears the inscription, "In memory of William Shield, musician and composer. Born at Swalwell, March 5, 1748; died in London, January 25, 1829; buried in Westminster Abbey. Erected by public subscription, 1891."

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OUR article on "Medicinal Music" and a paragraph referring to the operations of the Guild of St. Cecilia have provoked a rejoinder from "A Lover of True Criticism," who stigmatises the statements contained therein as "equally untrue and vulgarly offensive," The gravamen of our correspondent's indictment chiefly resides in the fact that we alluded to the members of this Guild as amateurs, whereas "none of those comprising the performing members of the Guild (except a lady who has helped with the contralto parts) are amateurs, the gentleman who assists the founder (Canon Harford) with the arrangement of the music is an Associate of the R.A.M., and the rest are similarly experienced professionals who have never had any trouble in securing attentive and admiring audiences in some of the largest halls in London and the provinces." We readily give prominence to this correction, though we cannot see that it in any way invalidates our criticism of the operation of the Guild-on the contrary, in some ways it only strengthens it. Let it not be supposed for one moment that we intended to turn into mockery the gracious and benevolent kindness which for many a long year has prompted accomplished artists-professional or amateur-to employ their talents for the purpose of soothing and cheering hospital patients. It is the turning of the thing into a system that we loudly protest against. There is something terribly grotesque and American in the worst sense of the word in this notion of a central hall with telephones laid on and a staff of performers prepared to go out at a moment's notice, like so many district messengers. Many a good thing has been spoilt ere now by this passion for organisation. And since our correspondent is so anxious to vindicate the efficiency of the performing members, it is time that the truth was told about the séances to which the public were invited. As medicine they may have been admirable, but as music they were so inferior that out of very kindness the leading critics of the London press held their peace. At the close of the article to which our correspondent takes exception, we expressed a desire to know what the leaders of the medical profession thought of the scheme, and "A Lover of True Criticism" points triumphantly to the fact that Sir Andrew Clark and Sir Richard Quain have sent subscriptions and letters expressing approval and sympathy. We should like to ask the further question whether these two eminent men know have never broken his word or lost a friend." Finally, he anything about music. It is no secret that the alluded to Shield's view of the lyric stage as more than a medical profession are not by any means unani-mere pastime. "Speaking to us as it does through varied mous as to the value of the services which the Guild

profession, we are not aware that any single musician of eminence has lent the movement his countenance. Our correspondent encloses some very touching verses, copied from the Christian World, expressing the gratitude of the hospital patients to the St. Cecilia Guild. But even these do not reconcile us to the telephonic ministrations devised by the Rev. F. K. Harford. We believe that the needs of the case are amply met by casual and spontaneous efforts. protest was unfair, we cannot help thinking that it would have elicited more than one solitary rejoinder.

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THE quantity of third-rate music now annually produced is so gigantic and its pattern so stereotyped that we cannot resist projecting our minds a little way into the future and conjuring up a vision of a Musical Composition Factory, conducted under the most approved modern principles of division of labour and strict trades' unionism. In imagination we behold ourselves being conducted over it and being shownfirstly, the schools of design, where the enterprising manufacturers educate and find employment for quite a number of young musicians, who pass their lives in inventing new phrases-if those can be called new which may only deviate a hair's breadth from existing patterns. Next we pass through a range of workshops where these patterns are transferred to thin metal plates, which are cut out stencil-wise. Properly ruled sheets receive these stencil-patterns on certain definite parts of the music staves (this is unskilled labour, performed by girls), and harmony is filled in by experienced workmen. Retired street harpists are preferred for this work, but they leave much to be desired in point of sobriety. In the fitting department are picked out the sections most suitable for joining together and thus complete short move-ments are formed. In another part of the building these are sorted again and taken in ones and twos, which assortments are joined in the manner of a sandwich, one between two copies of another. Thus a complete "Danse," "Gavotte," or "Impromptu" is turned out. We are then taken by our guide to the most interesting part of the factory-the rooms where titles are invented and title-pages designed. Having watched this fascinating process till our guide warns us of the flight of time, we reluctantly tear ourselves away and descend to the basement, where boys are investing the still warm morceaux with gaily coloured wrappers, and packing them in those delightful wooden cases for wholesale exportation. A visit to the stables-like those of all great factories, with their show horses and other amiable deceptions-forms rather an anti-climax, accompanied as it is by a flood of wearisome commercial statistics from our guide; but when the latter takes us to the office and show-rooms and bestows on us a copy of the last new piece, and when, having tipped him, we open the door of the stifling building and emerge into the fresh air, with whirling heads and a gaily coloured paper roll in our hands, we feel that our minds have been enlarged and improved by the interesting information they have acquired.

But what about the minds of others? Can it be better for people to be supplied with this accurately fitting, machine-made music than the old rougher article worked by hand? Can it be better for musicians to work up through the schools of design into permanent situations in a music factory than to work awaits him? As in the present day a bootmaker sideration.

and a bookbinder are as extinct as the dodo, each trade being split up into a score of sub-divisions in order to dispense as far as possible with brains, so may we not possibly live to see the time when all the different processes through which a musical composition has to pass before it is finished shall be undertaken by different hands in order to save trouble and lessen the cost of production? Many more improbable things have come to pass. Already the thing is done privately and on a tolerably large scale. A invents a tune and whistles it to B, who writes it down. C harmonises it and makes a presentable song or piece of it, and perhaps D arranges it for orchestra. If matters go so far, then E, F, G, and the rest of the alphabet are certain to follow with various transcriptions and perversions, till "happy, undeserving A" and "wretched, meritorious B" would not recognise their own idea. A certain musician is said to have committed the Irish bull of declaring that every composer ought to score his own orchestration. We shall not be accused of a like blunder if we earnestly implore every musician to write his own compositions himself.

THE article headed "Our Opportunity in Vienna," which appeared in the October number of THE MUSICAL TIMES, has so far had the desired effect in eliciting opinions and proposals on the subject, although we cannot yet report that any definite schemes have been decided upon. Always to the fore when choral music is concerned, Bristol is already on the move, and we gather that some remarks made by the talented and energetic Conductor, Mr. George Riseley, as to the desirability of the Western city being represented at Vienna have been warmly approved. If a provincial centre is to take the lead in what may be regarded as a patriotic, as well as an artistic movement, Bristol with its two large choral societies, its immense Amateur Orchestral Society (the largest, we believe, in the kingdom), its Orpheus and Madrigal Societies and its four district societies, offers, perhaps, the widest possible scope for selection. But while approving in the most hearty fashion whatever may be done there or elsewhere, we are of opinion that the initiative should proceed from the metropolis. In 1878, when the Paris Exhibition authorities offered a prize for unaccompanied part-singing, the members of the Henry Leslie choir, almost to a man-and a woman-agreed to enter the lists, and the victory was won by them amid a scene of enthusiasm which those who were present will never forget. The Leslie Choir is no more, and a process of decentralization has for some time been at work, so far as the cultivation of choral music is concerned, in London. But there remains one central body in which we, as a musical nation, have a right to take pride. The Royal Choral Society ought to be invited to represent us in Vienna so far as regards performances of oratorio and cantata; and then, with the aid of Bristol for the glee and madrigal department, we should have no reason to feel ashamed. The question of cost would have to be gravely considered, for it would of course be a far more expensive business to despatch a large body to Vienna than to Paris. The Athenaum, in a note on the subject, suggests that subscriptions should be invited from music-lovers, in order, at any rate, to lessen the outlay of each individual, and something might surely be done in this way. As to means of conveyance, time of year for the expedition, and programmes, nothing need be said at present. first thing is to decide upon our representative forces; irresponsibly and each according as the spirit moves first thing is to decide upon our representative forces; him, though uncertain whether fame or starvation the plan of operations would then come up for con-

IF THE MUSICAL TIMES could be so unchristian as to envy anybody, that state of feeling would be evoked by the Boston Musical Herald. Our trans-Atlantic contemporary has the most delightful correspondence column to be found anywhere, both questions and answers being of a freshness unknown to us dull Londoners. We cull a few examples:—

Q. Why is harmony so difficult to study without a acher? I have run against a snag. What did the first

harmonist do when he struck a snag

A. He didn't do much; probably far less than you have done. It took time and much brain sacrifice to get hold of the principles of composition and to find out what were mistakes and how to avoid them.

Q. Please name some arrangements of good music for

violin, cornet, and piano.

A. Classic Trios, five numbers, arranged by Benj. Cutter, Jean White, Boston

(Such is the ingenious way in which the editor advertises his own compositions.)

Q. Why are the Mozart piano sonatas so thin? The sonatas by Haydn, who preceded Mozart, are much fuller in their chords.

A. We cannot answer you absolutely, as Mozart has gone hence and cannot be interviewed. Possibly natural taste had something to do here; also, the instruments of the day.

Q. What is the least that a good pipe organ (good

enough) costs?

A. One thousand dollars, an expert tells us.

We are not sufficiently versed in the American language to know the exact force of the expression "good enough.")

- Q. Which is the greatest piano method in the world? A. We do not know. Wish some one would tell us. Q. What do you think of "The Maiden's Prayer"?
- A. Life is too short to think of such music.

A RESIDENT in Frith Street made a suggestion in the Pall Mall Gazette of the 23rd ult. which will commend itself to most musicians. It is to the effect that in this, the centenary year of Mozart's death, it would be a graceful act of homage to the memory of that immortal composer if a tablet were put up on the house in which he lodged during his stay in London in 1764-1765. This was in Thrift Street, now Frith Street, and we gather that there is no difficulty in identifying the house. If this be so we trust that the Society of Arts may see their way to carry out an eminently opportune suggestion.

#### FACTS, RUMOURS, AND REMARKS.

THE Christian World sometimes indulges in a little pleasant gossip on church music, and the other week devoted a column to the "singing parson"—not him who uplifts his voice in the sanctuary, but who exercises it in the Concert-room and at social gatherings. It seems that the opinion of our contemporary's clerical readers had been asked regarding the case of a minister who was censured for singing a "whole-some, healthy song" at a gathering of his Young Men's Society. The column referred to contains samples of such replies as the "Nonconformist conscience" permitted, and we quite agree with the Christian World that they are interesting. Some extracts appear below:—"I am a Congregational minister," writes one correspondent, "and I have many times sung in public in the town in which I reside. I have contributed an item or two to a programme for a ' Penny Pop.,' or for a far more ambitious Concert. Such things as 'The Englishman,' 'The Worker,' 'Nazareth,' 'I fear no foe,' 'Ora Pro Nobis,' 'Eternal Rest,' 'The Raft,' 'The Longshoreman,'

and others equally varied I have ventured to submit to the judgment of an audience gathered in my Schoolroom. Last Christmas I sang some of the recitatives and solos from Dr. Stainer's 'Crucifixion.' when the performance was given in my church. On one or two occasions I have given a song on unsectarian ground. As regards the effect of 'my courage' in this direction, all I can say is, that while the majority of my people have readily given me my liberty, some few have criticised me adversely. Many outsiders stigmatised me as 'the singing parson,' and so on. One or two of my own people took serious offence some two years ago, and to this day they have not quite recovered."

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Another reverend gentleman writes very emphatically: "I am a singing minister, always have been, and always hope to be. I must sing. In the pulpit, the pew, the home, on the platform, at concerts, and at the social gathering. Sing: What did God give me a baritone voice for? But do I sing secular songs? Yes; there are plenty of songs with a downright good sentiment really worth singing, and for the life of me I cannot see what there is wrong in ministers singing a song in public, any more than in playing tennis or cricket, riding or driving, rowing or walking, eating or drinking in public, though not, perhaps, in a public. Why should we be held in bondage by a few namby-pamby, narrow-souled, conventional old women?" Why, indeed, good Sir?

ANOTHER minister remarked: "Ministers should just consider themselves men amongst men. sour, prim ministers have had their day." Evidently, the Nonconformist conscience is becoming more liberal, and the minister less stiff and starched, without being, we venture to say, less godly.

IT will be remembered that, at a breakfast given by the Mayor of Hereford in connection with the recent Musical Festival, the health of the musical critics was drunk, and the gracious act acknowledged by the Rev. H. R. Haweis. The appearance of the rev. gentleman in that capacity led to some more or less facetious remarks by certain ungrateful members of the brotherhood whom he kindly represented, and for whose want of eloquence he made amends. These remarks coming under the notice of the Mayor, his Worship was good enough to explain that no slight upon the professional gentlemen of the pen was intended by the choice of an amateur in the person of Mr. Haweis. The Mayor, it may be said here, took the whole matter too seriously. There never was any question or feeling of slight. What did present itself was an opportunity for a lively paragraph concerning a gentleman who has not hitherto been known to resent publicity.

On the Mayor's explanation getting into print, Mr. Haweis sat down and wrote a long letter to his Worship, in which he marshalled all his qualifications for the position and duties of a musical critic. This part of the document is a remarkable instance of a testimonial to one's self, and deserves quotation: "You had been told, by those who seemed reliable, that from early childhood I had played the violin; that in my young days, at Bath, Brighton, and elsewhere, I had played through most of the symphonies, overtures, and oratorios in the orchestra, besides being a devoted quartet player; that for three years I was the undisputed solo violinist at the Cambridge University Musical Society; that later on I was invited to lecture at the Royal Institution on the violin; that my book on 'Music and Mora.s,' now in

its seventeenth edition in England, was a standard prize book in English schools and a class book in American colleges; and that Moskowski, the famous German critic, had translated 'Music and Morals' into German, with a laudatory preface; that after my delivery of the Lowel Lectures on 'The Anatomy of Musical Sound,' 'The Rationale and Ethics of Music,' together with my lectures on Wagner in 1885, the musical professors of Boston gave me a public reception at the Boston Conservatory of Music, and presented me with an uncommonly high-flown address, and that "—here we pause a moment to breathe.

"WITH Liszt's full sympathy and approval," continues Mr. Haweis, "laudatory articles on my writings were published in a leading Hungarian paper, whilst Wagner went the length of publicly embracing me, and thanking me in warm terms for my exposition of his great musical dramas. Your impression or delusion that I knew something about music was shared by Liszt, Wagner, Moskowski, and, I may add, Sterndale Bennett, who accompanied my first public solo; Sgambati, who gave a special performance of his works in my honour at Rome, when Liszt also was present; and John Ella, who, after reading 'Music and Morals,' made me honorary member of the Musical Union," &c.

THE above imposing array of qualifications for representing the musical press at a Mayor's breakfast is, we are quite sure, more than enough to make the objecting critics break and run away; but Mr. Haweis, turning retreat into a rout, opens upon them volleys of irony and sarcasm. Hear him: "The actual qualification of a musical critic may be difficult to define, but after this recent protest we can no longer be in doubt as to what disqualifies a would-be critic. The true musical critic must evidently be one who cannot handle the violin, who never played in an orchestra, never wrote a book on music, never delivered a musical lecture, never addressed the Royal Institution, never received the respectful recognition of experts at the Boston Conservatory, nor the praise of Wagner, nor the confidence of half-a-dozen leading editors." There! Where are ye now, O objectors? Do ye not feel smashed and pulverised? At the next Hereford Festival, Mr. Haweis will be escorted into the city by a band of music playing "See, the conquering hero comes! Sound your trumpets, beat your drums!'

It seems that the prospects of the suggested Musical Festival at Cardiff are just now clouded over. As far as we can make out from somewhat confused accounts, there are rival originators who are, or have been, taking a double initiative. Active preliminary measures, it would seem, were first taken by Mr. Brocklebank, Organist of Llandaff Cathedral, and Mr. Walter Scott, a well-known Cardiff professor. These gentlemen obtained patrons, guarantors, &c., intending afterwards to invite representative musicians and others to form an executive committee. Presumably their mode of action gave offence in certain quarters, and a second set of preliminaries was begun by a second set of promoters, who held a meeting (reporters excluded) which Messrs. Brocklebank and Scott were asked to attend. In declining, these gentlemen said: "We beg to assure our brother musicians that it is an entire mistake to suppose that we ever dreamed of managing the Festival simply by ourselves." Here, no doubt, is the key of the situa-Messrs. Brocklebank and Scott have been unfortunate enough to excite personal jealousy, and upon that dangerous rock the whole project may come to grief.

A WRITER in the Guardian, noticing Professor Stanford's "Eden," went somewhat out of his way to make the following remarks: "In the matter of modern librettos, the English oratorio-going public has so long acquiesced in the decorous doggerel, the irreproachable banality of Mr. Joseph Bennett that Dr. Stanford's audacity in choosing a scholar and a poet for his collaborator in 'Eden' . . . could hardly fail to create an electrical disturbance in the crass regions of Bœotia." This is so elegant and in such perfect taste that we are sorry to disturb it, but really it is needful to point out that all the oratorio libretti hitherto prepared by Mr. Bennett have Biblical words. His assailant, being a superior person, is probably not aware of the fact. Let him buy a Bible; then take the "Rose of Sharon," "Ruth," and the "Repentance of Nineveh," and compare. Of course, if the Guardian chooses to consider Biblical language as doggerel and banality, that is its own affair.

The engagement of foreign professors for the "National Conservatory of Music of America" is giving umbrage in some patriotic quarters. Thus the Song Friend says:—"But why have this school in America? The list of teachers indicates that it should be held in some central city in Europe, as ninety per cent. of the teachers are foreign born, and, we presume, are not and do not want to be naturalised. They come for the ducats. We are forced to the conclusion that in Mrs. Thurber's opinion, American teachers are not as competent as foreign teachers are. The Song Fri.nd demurs. American teachers there are sufficient in quality, quantity, and patriotism to equip her schools more thoroughly than it now is. Come under the American flag, Mrs. Thurber, and get a crew of Americans to manage your ship and she shall float to success."

In his notice of the recent Festival at Worcester (Mass.) an American contemporary makes a slashing attack upon Dr. Bridge's "Repentance of Nineveh," the music of which, he says, "is like the earth before the creation, without form and void," and "like eternity in that it has no beginning, middle, nor end." Unfortunately, the slap-dash writer does not even make sure of the composer's name. He calls him Bridges throughout. The "book" of the Oratorio is honoured by notice much in the same style, mainly, to all appearance, because the librettist is "a distinguished anti-Wagnerite musical critic." To be an English worker in any form of art is a mortal offence to certain American writers, but to be an English worker and not a swallower of Wagner, boots and all, is to be excommunicate at once.

A correspondent has forwarded to us an elaborate lithographed letter (perhaps we should call it circular), in which a gentleman giving an address on the "Northern heights" observes: "Thinking there is a probability of the organist's post in your church becoming vacant, I beg respectfully to offer my services for the position. I have had many years' experience of church psalmody," and so on. This document, our correspondent informs us, was sent to the authorities of the church at which he is organist, although there had never been any question of a vacancy; and he rightly thinks that public notice should be called to a procedure which is not only very peculiar in character, but might lead those who receive the circular to imagine that their organist is seeking another appointment.

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Concerts during his present provincial tour. Apropos to that successful work, we read some very just remarks in a Huddersfield paper:—"Dr. Mackenzie's 'Pibroch,' produced at the last Leeds Festival, is, indeed, a 'show piece,' but one of a very different character to the usual compositions answering this The fanciful fiorituri with which it description. abounds, the piquant variations in the middle section, and the capricious character of the whole, are exactly what the Spanish artist, for whom it was originally written, knows how to express, and in his hands it possesses an interest with which few, if any, other players can invest it. Last night it delighted the audience." A Newcastle paper states: "It is a noble composition, full of character and full of difficulties-a veritable pons asinorum for violinists.'

THE Orpheus Club of Philadelphia offers a prize of \$500 for the best original composition for male voices. The composition must be in Cantata form, and written to English words, which may be sacred or secular; it must be written for a male chorus of forty, and must contain solo or concerted parts for soprano and baritone; it must have orchestral accompaniment, to which an organ part may be added if the composer wishes, and it should occupy about forty-five minutes in performance. The composition must be melodious and vocal—i.e., thoroughly singable, and effective when sung, and not merely technically meritorious. Compositions must be sent to the Secretary not later than January 15, 1892.

LEEDS will have a busy musical season between the present time and the holding of the Festival next year. The Subscription Concerts (Orchestral) promise well; the Philharmonic Society will give a series of Oratorios, and a commemorative Mozart Selection (Novello's); Mr. Haddock's Musical Evenings resume on the 24th inst.; there will be a round of Saturday Evening Concerts in the Albert Hall, and Dr. Spark's Organ Recitals will take place as usual. There should be no complaining of a musical famine in the streets of the great Yorkshire town.

MR. G. W. McCREE writes to a contemporary: "A few weeks ago I gave two working girls tickets for a Concert of a superior class. I have just seen one of them, and, in thanking me, she said, 'I never was at a Concert in my life.' I felt distressed. No sweet voices, no melodious choirs, nor grand organ had ever charmed and elevated this girl. The Concert was in a chapel. Why not? Cannot Christians use their chapels and choirs a little more in this way, and so make many a poor girl feel like an angel and a saint?" We have much pleasure in giving Mr. McCree's question extra publicity.

As far as at present appears, the next Leeds Festival will not be memorable for the number of new works it has produced. A secular Cantata by Mr. F. H. Cowen and a Symphony by Mr. Fred. Cliffe are all of which the Committee have assurance; a composition by Sir Arthur Sullivan, though spoken of, being decidedly doubtful. The public, we fancy, will not complain that the novelties are few, and the chorus will benefit decidedly by comparative freedom from the hard work which on former occasions has done mischief.

WE hear from Berlin that a new libretto has been prepared for the ballet of "Prometheus," the original one having been lost, and that it was performed at and one in Princes' Hall. At the first, Mozart's

SARASATE will play Mackenzie's "Pibroch" at all the Royal Opera House, with Beethoven's music, on a recent evening. Professor Taubert, who undertook the reconstruction, worked, it is said, from the indications given by certain surviving fragments of the original. On the evening of this revival, Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" was produced with much

> THE Musical Courier of New York, which is nothing if not outspoken, gives an opinion of Hans von Bülow which even the wayfaring man, though a fool, cannot possibly mistake: "Von Bülow was always an over-rated pianist, with a bad touch, harsh tone, and his readings were both arbitrary and

> THE same iconoclastic journal remarks upon another subject: "'Cavalleria Rusticana' is certainly an over-puffed and over-praised opera, despite the evident talent of its composer." This, however, does not go so far as Dvorák's reported declaration that Mascagni's work "has no originality," that it is "clever in certain respects, but I would not want to listen to it again," and that the much talked-about Intermezzo is "the worst thing in the opera-the very worst."

> WE hear, on good authority, that no fewer than forty ladies and gentlemen are candidates for the position of musical critic on the Morning Post, vacant by the death of Mr. W. A. Barrett, whose son is discharging, pro tem., the duties which devolved upon his late father. The office of a critic is trying and thankless-one not to be desired by any man or woman who can find other work; yet it seems to have attractions.

> IT appears that musical news passing through the Atlantic cable sometimes suffers "a sea change." Under the heading "Some Cable News," in an American contemporary, we read that Madame Fabbri is a tenor, and that "Antonín Dvorák, who received the degree of Doctor of Medicine honoris causa at Cambridge on June 16 last, conducted the final rehearsals of the Birmingham Festival."

> REPORT speaks of a Sacred Music Congress, to be holden at Milan on the 10th inst. It will last three days and be attended by musicians from all parts of the Continent. The world is nothing if not congressional just now, and organists and organ-builders are on the point of meeting at Vienna. How all these outbursts of talk would have vexed the soul and roused the ire of Thomas Carlyle!

> DVORÁK'S new Suite of three movements in Overture form will probably be heard at the Philharmonic Concerts next year (it is not yet published), and, no doubt, the attention of Mr. Arthur Chappell will be given to the Bohemian master's new Pianoforte Trio in six movements, which also, for the present, remains in MS.

> Mr. Sarasate, having entered into a comprehensive series of engagements for performances in London and the provinces, is now engaged upon a task which involves no little personal exertion. Between September 22 last and December 15 next he will appear at fifty-one Concerts at almost as many places. wish him safely through this great labour.

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"Requiem" and a part of "Parsifal" will be given; at an early age entered St. Paul's as a chorister, a selection of unaccompanied vocal works.

THE directors of the Carl Rosa Opera Company have organised a musical committee to which all purely artistic questions will henceforth be submitted. The members are Dr. J. F. Bridge, Mr. W. Ganz, and Mr. George Fremantle. Undoubtedly this step is a wise one.

WE are authorised to state that the post of Assistant Inspector of Music held by the late Mr. W. A. Barrett will not be filled up. Mr. W. G. McNaught will undertake the duties of his late coadjutor and will be the sole Assistant Inspector.

The prospectus of an "Artistic tour in the Old World" has appeared in New York. The artistic tourists will be personally conducted by Mr. Carl Hecker. The route, it is hardly necessary to say, does not touch England.

THE long years' agitation about the Reid Chair reform in Edinburgh has resulted only in the permission to grant degrees. "Parturiunt montes, nascitur ridiculus Mus. Bac."

Mr. FREDERIC CLIFFE has partly sketched his Orchestral Symphony for the Leeds Festival. It is a descriptive work containing some novel features, and will be found interesting, to say the least.

TRANSATLANTIC gossip speaks of a husband who "always trembles when his wife sings in church, with prayerful emphasis, 'Oh, for a thousand tongues.'

THE next (December) number of THE MUSICAL Times will contain a Christmas Anthem, composed expressly by Berthold Tours.

Mr. F. W. RENAUT has been appointed Secretary to the Royal Academy of Music.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER BARRETT.

On Saturday morning, the 17th ult., the Editor of this journal was called from life with awful suddenness. Mr. Barrett had suffered a sharp attack of influenza in the spring of the present year, and, as often happens, that mysterious and remorseless disease left its victim in a condition best described, perhaps, in the homely phrase, "not the same man." But there was no reason for concern either in the patient's appearance or, as far as I know, in his sensations. Mr. Barrett continued to discharge many and varied duties with undiminished vigour and success. His last important work as a musical journalist was in connection with the Birmingham Festival, which began only eleven days before Death called him from labour to repose. During the time taken up by the performances he occupied a place next to mine, and the impression made upon me by our intercourse was rather one of full and abounding life than of failing vigour. His humour was as irrepressible as ever; his perception of character, either personal or artistic, seemed to have lost none of its keenness, and had I been asked for an opinion concerning the time-value of his life I should have rated it at a high figure. But under this hale exterior the destroyer was at work, preparing for the catastrophe which startled and grieved the entire musical world of this country. It is understood that Mr. Barrett was attacked by apoplexy shortly after rising from his bed, and died before medical aid could be procured.

1834. Mr. Barrett was a native of Hackney, and to higher position and enlarged responsibility brings

at the second, Bach's Mass in B minor; at the third, receiving his education in the Cathedral School. On the breaking of his voice young Barrett was apprenticed to a wood-engraver, under whom he attained that facility as a draughtsman which, in the service of native humour, so often contributed to the amusement of his friends. Music, however, had a stronger claim upon him than the art of the limner, and he soon became her "faithful soldier and servant." Mr. Barrett's first appointment was as Choirmaster at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, and his second as lay clerk at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he remained from 1859 till 1865. Mr. Barrett, soon after his going to Oxford, was employed by Mr. James Parker to assist edit a small monthly paper called the Penny Post, and this paper he also illustrated and engraved the "blocks." His residence in the University town was an advantage to be utilised. The Magdalen layclerk entered his name, therefore, at St. Mary's Hall, as a member of which he, in 1871, took the degree of Mus. Bac. On leaving Oxford, Mr. Barrett re-entered London life, never again to quit it. In the same year (1866) he became an assistant Vicar-Choral in the great church which had claimed and educated him as a boy. This was the first step of a quick ascent. A year later Mr. Barrett accepted the position of musical critic on the staff of the Morning Post, offered him despite the fact that much experience as a journalist had not previously come in his way. The proprietors of the paper, however, made no mistake in their appointment, and from 1866 till his death Mr. Barrett served them well. To the duties of a musical critic he, in 1871, added those of assistant to Mr. Hullah, government inspector of music in schools and training colleges. This position was also retained to the end. Finally, in 1883, Mr. Barrett became examiner to the Society of Arts.

The deceased gentleman's contributions to music and literature were the following: "Flowers and Festivals" (1868), "The Chorister's Guide" (1872), "English Church Composers," "Glees and Madri-"English Folk Songs," an edition of "Standard English Songs," a "Dictionary of Musical Terms" (jointly with Sir John Stainer), "Albums of Song" (Hook, Arne, Bishop, Dibdin, Loder, Balfe), and numerous articles now scattered among a variety of serial publications. Mr. Barrett was successively editor of the Orchestra, the Monthly Musical Record, and THE MUSICAL TIMES, while to the many and varied forms of activity above-mentioned must be added that of lecturing, for which, especially in connection with antiquarian and popular music, he had superior qualifications. Mr. Barrett was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Fellow and Lecturer of the College of Organists, Lecturer to the City of London College and London Institution, and Mus. Doc., Trinity College, Toronto.

Here was essentially a modern man, with his hands full of work, and never free from the strain which the conditions of fast-living days impose upon those who would hold their own in a ceaseless strife for position. The question is whether our departed friend did not undertake too much. Doubtless he looked forward to a time when, the struggle over and the victory won, he could spend the restful evening of life surrounded by honour, love, obedience, troops of friends; but, as too often happens in such cases, his sun went down while it was yet day. Some may talk of another sacrifice to the "storm and stress" of an eager and restless age, and quote the philosopher's "To live long is to live slowly." But men must be The life so suddenly ended began October 15, judged leniently in all such cases. Every advance

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not only additional opportunities but added obligations. The hand once on the plough there can be no looking back without shame. The task must be pursued to its end, and sometimes the end comes before the furrow is completed. Our dead Editor will be missed. As well as an active worker, he was a kindly, genial soul, who lightened the way of his friends and colleagues with cheery words and the voice of laughter. There were always merry the voice of laughter. There were always merry hearts in his company, and "A merry heart goes all the day, A sad tires in a mile." He who brightened the course of others has now ended his own. Said honest old Andrew Fuller, "He lives long that lives well . . . God is better than His promise if He takes from him a long lease and gives him a freehold of a greater value." In the hope that he now enjoys that freehold the friends of William Alexander Barrett rest.

I. B.

### BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Much depended on the success or failure of the Festival held in the second week of October. A continued run of ill luck on previous occasions since the death of Michael Costa had created something which, if not despair, was hopelessness in the public mind, and, till within a week or so of the meeting, the worst apprehensions were enter-tained, encouraged rather than depressed by changes in procedure, the wisdom of which could only be decided by results. It must have been an anxious experience for the managers as time went on and no particular signs of public interest in the Festival were forthcoming. But anxiety was not mingled with self-reproach. The Committee had done their best to provide a good programme and efficient executants. More was not possible. Happily, all came right in the end. Prophecies of evil were put to shame, and the Festival closed triumphantly, with a success, artistic and financial, not often surpassed. Honour to Mr. G. H. Johnstone and Mr. Beale, upon whom fell the burden of responsibility, and whose should be the largest reward. These gentlemen plucked the Birmingham Festival out of the fire which threatened to consume it.

The artistic executive was on the usual scale both of dimension and completeness. Solo vocalists: Madame Albani (engaged, but prevented by illness from appearing), Albami (engaged, but prevented by liness from appearing), Miss Anna Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Brereton, Miss Macintyre, Miss Hilda Wilson, Madame Hope Glenn, Messrs. Lloyd, McKay, Santley, Watkin Mills, and Henschel. Solo instrumentalist, Dr. Joachim; organist, Mr. Perkins; chorusmaster, Mr. Stockley; Conductor, Mr. Richter; orchestra, led by Messrs. Burnett and Schiever, over a hundred strong; chorus of the strength usual at Birmingham, but of better quality than ordinary; sopranos, fine; contraltos, good; tenors, superb; basses, a little wanting in depth but of excellent quality otherwise. The Festival, in short, was well equipped, fit at all points, and, barring accidents, assured of high artistic results. To this end, the work of preparation was ample. There were London rehearsals extending over the greater part of a week, and two days' general rehearsals in Birmingham time enough for a searching probation. Nothing was left undone that could promote efficiency and confidence. Had the performances failed there would have been just occasion That, as a matter of fact, they were not all for wonder. irreproachable was due to causes beyond control.

The public proceedings began on Tuesday, the 6th ult., with Mendelssohn's "Elijah"; that work again occupying the place of honour accorded it at every Festival, save one, since 1846. Amateurs look to Birmingham for a specially excellent rendering of the great Oratorio which there entered upon its illustrious career, but, on this occasion, the fates were adverse. I lay no particular stress upon objections to the tempi adopted in certain cases by Richter. They may be well founded, but the question could never be considered as very important. A far greater drawback was the inefficiency of Miss Macintyre, who, failing Madame Albani, had undertaken the soprano solos. This lady's shortcomings may have been due, as was afterwards claimed, to indisposition.

quite to make out the process by which, in illness, an artist sings D natural instead of D sharp. However caused, there was the fact, and the performance suffered accordingly. Hope Glenn, Lloyd, and Santley did their work well, and both chorus and orchestra made a favourable impression, convincing everybody that with them nothing was the matter. The audience completely filled the Town Hall, and brought more to the treasury than any other in the course of the Festival. On these occasions nobody expects that the evening of the "Elijah" day will prove very remunerative. Nevertheless, there was a large gathering at the second Concert, when Dr. Mackenzie's new setting of the "Veni, Creator Spiritus," for soli, chorus, and orchestra, figured at the head of the programme. It is not my purpose to discuss at length any of the Festival novelties. They will come under notice when performed in London, and then have their merits estimated on the basis of fuller acquaintance. Some general remarks are, however, called for, and with regard to Dr. Mackenzie's setting of the Hymn, this must be said-namely, that it is a remarkably well-considered and effective example of the style in music which Englishmen accept as peculiarly sacred. The general structure of the work is contrapuntal it contains a Fugue of the noblest character-but science is throughout strictly subordinate to expression, and used only as a means of securing it. While the solo voices give relief and varied effect, their music is in keeping with that of the chorus, and might, indeed, be sung by the chorus. We have, therefore, a very homogeneous work, wherein all the resources of choral writing are drawn upon and used as a master uses them. Though the piece is not very long, there was some risk of monotony, owing to uniformity of means and method. composer has so skilfully managed that the fatal moment of emuii never comes. The interest is cumulative, and reaches its highest in the final section, where a choral effect, not unworthy of Handel, crowns the work. Dr. Mackenzie has written nothing better in its way than this solid, noble, and convincing music. In the programme with the new "Veni, Creator," were Beethoven's Violin Concerto, played by Joseph Joachim; Sterndale Bennett's Overture, "The Naiades"; and Brahms's Third Symphony. These works Naiades"; and Brahms's Third Symphony. These works were given with almost uniform success. Richter was in his true element, and the fine orchestra played up to him with enthusiasm. It is needless to describe the cordial reception given to the great Hungarian violinist, or how he proved that he deserved it.

The morning of Wednesday was devoted to Bach's "Passion" according to St. Matthew, the performance of which, after very careful rehearsal, might, with hardly any exaggeration, be spoken of as monumental. It had been felt that the choice of the work entailed heavy responsibilities. The "Passion" is one of those masterpieces which may not be trifled with, and in connection with which even comparatively slight shortcomings are of grave significance. Richter and his people, therefore, "went for" it in downright earnest, and had their reward in consciousness of a good thing well done. The solos were entrusted to Miss Macintyre (in much better "form" than on the day previous), Miss Wilson, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley, with Mr. Brereton and Mr. Watkin Mills acting in a subordinate capacity. It need scarcely be said that the work these artists had to do was sometimes of an ungrateful character, but they did everything in a manner more or less satisfac-The honours were not quite equally divided, Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Santley having a preponderating share for perfectly just reasons; there is, however, no obligation to insist upon distinctions where all acquitted themselves so well. The choral singing was, throughout, very fine indeed. Seldom have the Birmingham people done better, or even so well, and the performance of the "Passion" should be marked with a red letter in the history of the Festival. At the evening Concert, Professor Stanford's dramatic Oratorio "Eden" made its début before a public whose curiosity had been considerably raised in advance. Musicians were, of course, eager to become acquainted with the novelty, and many familiar faces appeared at Birmingham in consequence. London amateurs will soon have an opportunity of hearing "Eden," as it will shortly be performed at the Royal Albert Hall, and may then be and Proing inte I piecof lanto

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judged in the light of fuller experience than has at the present moment been acquired. Some words of descrip- which the congregation of the faithful lowly respond, tion may, therefore, serve all purposes in this place. Pro-fessor Stanford's librettist, Mr. Robert Bridges, has set fessor Stanford's fibreuts, All. Moster Bridges, has set forth, in vigorous though not always clear English, a comprehensive "argument," which owes something, it is said, to Milton's sketch for a dramatic version of "Paradise Lost." The book deals with heavenly rejoicings over the creation of man; Satan's dream, in hell, of that portentous event, and his detection of a method by which to work the ruin of the new creature; the temptation and tall in Eden, and a vision in which, besides some of the terrible consequence of his sin, Adam is shown the coming of a Redeemer, and derives therefrom consolation and rest. The working out of this drama necessitates many actors—angels of various kinds, devils, Michael, Satan, Adam, Eve, Furies, Warriors, and so on-but the various scenes are clearly defined. There may be occasional obscurity in the language; there is none in the action, and without doubt all the scenes are highly picturesque. Professor Stanford's share of the work was obviously carried out in full sympathy with his colleague's design. Even those who fail to recognise the inspiration of the music and object to the composer's methods are bound to admit his ingenuity and the wonderful cleverness with which materials of many kinds, brought from many quarters, are turned to effective account. In connection with a picture so large and diversified, uniformity of merit can hardly be expected. Some parts are better than others-the best, in my opinion, being the heavenly music, with its skilful imitation of antique forms and methods; the earlier portions of the scene in hell, where the devils call upon Satan to awake-very lurid and striking; the opening pages of the Eden scene, and those in which the work is brought to an end. Whether the merits of Professor Stanford's Oratorio will outweigh the defects which some critics see in the general and special treatment of the subject is a question not now to be answered. "Eden" requires hearing more than once, and it is a composition as to which first impressions may ultimately come to be modified. Every advantage was given to the work in performance, all engaged upon it doing their very best. Especially may this be said of the solo vocalists—Anna Williams, Hope Glenn, Lloyd, Watkin Mills, and Henschel and, above all, of the first-named, who, taking Albani's place, sang some distinctly trying music with good judg-ment and entire accuracy. The chorus made splendid effects in most of the numerous opportunities afforded them, and the orchestra did not fall behind its associates. Professor Stanford conducted with all possible care, receiving at the close of his task gratifying testimony to the interest his Oratorio had excited.

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Handel's "Messiah," conducted by Mr. Stockley, occu-pied Thursday morning, and drew the second best audience of the week. It was followed in the evening by a miscellaneous Concert, having as its chief features the works now to be named: Parry's "Blest Pair of Sirens," Joachim's Hungarian Concerto, Schubert's lately published "Offertorium" and "Tantum ergo," the Overtures to "Anacreon" and "Euryanthe," and a few selections from Wagner. The Overtures were finely executed, but the Concerto has been heard to better purpose, albeit played, as to its solo, by the composer himself. Not a few passages in it were quite disappointing. Dr. Parry's noble work decidedly made the effect of the evening, under its author's direction; the effect of the evening, under its author's direction; the chorus singing with enthusiasm music which amply repays whatever time and energy are spent upon it. Mozart's "Ave verum" was given, I suppose, as some recognition, though too scanty, of the approaching centenary.

On Friday morning the hall was filled with a crowd anxious to hear Dvorák's new "Requiem," and, no doubt, a lock upon the spingent musicing to whom guarters over

to look upon the eminent musician to whom amateurs owe so much that is beautiful. It would be paying my readers a poor compliment to suppose that they have not made themselves familiar with the Bohemian master's solemn and moving work, in which, as they know full well, the genius of the "Stabat Mater" shines brightly. They have marked the curiously persistent use of a single short theme—a note

as it were, to the supplication of their priests; the lurid magnificence of "numbers" describing the terrors of the Judgment, and the serene beauty of other sections which speak of hope and confidence. Although the which speak of hope and confidence. Atthough the "Requiem" draws more largely than its predecessor upon the resources of highest art, it belongs to the same class of work, and whoever would approach the latter in a spirit of preparedness should do so through the earlier. The two are consecutive links in a golden chain, and I anticipate the "Requiem" will go the round of our choral societies as the "Stabat Mater" did before it. The solos were taken by Anna Williams, Hilda Wilson, Iver McKay, and Watkin Mills, and the composer conducted. Following the novelty came the Introduction to "Parsifal" and Beethoven's Seventh Symphony. Here Richter held the baton, and the performers steadied themselves, as they could not help design. could not help doing.

The Festival ended on Friday evening with a performance of Berlioz's "Faust," which attracted, as is customary, a very large audience. This was an opportunity for the orchestra as well as chorus and solo vocalists, and right well did Richter's men take advantage of it, playing the Hun-garian March, the Ballet of Sylphs, and the Dance of "Will-o'-the-Wisps" with a splendour of tone and unity ot purpose most satisfying to the hearer. The chorus continued to the last in fine form, and it will readily be understood that the soloists, Miss Macintyre, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Brereton, and Mr. Henschel did themselves and their music

justice.

It is now certain that the Festival has benefited the General Hospital by more than £5,000. Of this sum £3,000 has come in by way of donation, the remainder being profit on the performances. All honour to the men who have worked unceasingly for this result, and made the Birmingham Festival once again a pecuniary as well as an

#### ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

SIR AUGUSTUS HARRIS has helped to cheer this miserable autumn by opening Covent Garden for French Opera, and giving a series of very interesting performances, mainly by artists from the Opéra Comique. He began on the 20th ult. with "Roméo et Juliette," given under the direction of a Conductor, Mr. Léon Jehin, who is strange to this country. Mr. Jehin soon showed that he knew his business. He conducts clearly and carefully, and has, from the first night, secured good performances. Several well-known artists, such as Miss Jansen, Mr. Abramoff, and Mr. Dufriche, shared in the representation of Gounod's opera; but the two principal characters were entrusted to new-comers, the Juliette being Miss Simmonet and the Roméo Mr. Cossira. Of these artists, the lady found it an easy task to win the sympathies and applause of her audience. She has a pure and delicate soprano voice, rather small in volume, but carrying well, and this she uses with skill and effect. Moreover, Miss Simmonet has an engaging appearance. She is young and fresh, and brings with her an atmosphere of refinement which at once makes itself felt. There is every reason to expect that she will become a favourite amongst us. Mr. Cossira's success was less positive, but he is a valuable tenor to any manager. Unfortunately, illness for some time prevented a second appearance. The piece was mounted as in the grand season, and much satisfaction was expressed by the patrons of opera at cheap prices. "Carmen" was given on the 22nd ult., with a new representative of the gipsy in Madame Deschamps, whose fame is by no means of vesterday. Miss Simmonet was a delightful Micaela, and Mr. Engel, whom opera-goers at once recognised as an old acquaintance, played Don José with a good deal of dramatic power in the last act, singing throughout moderately well. Madame Deschamps made her mark promptly. We have had many Carmens, but there was room for the curiously persistent use of a single short theme—a note of distress that runs through the whole as the musical equivalent of "strong crying and tears"; they have observed the effect, now sombre, now highly coloured, of bold and the part, but this means that she has had time to develop to the smallest detail. A more complete creation is rarely met with. The art is flawless throughout. Madame Deschamps further recommends herself by a superb mezzo-

soprano voice, which she uses with great skill.

On the 24th ult. Sir Augustus Harris placed lovers of opera under a new obligation by producing Gounod's "Philémon et Baucis," for the first time in England. This charming work would, perhaps, have reached us earlier, but for the fact that it is too short to fill up an entire evening, according to English notions of how an evening should be filled. The Garden Act of "Faust" was played with it on the occasion under notice, but it is a question whether "Philemon et Baucis" could not, after all, stand alone. It certainly gives satisfying pleasure to amateurs who can appreciate delicate and delightful music, in combination with finished executive skill. The opera, originally designed in two acts for the Baden Theatre, was expanded into three for the Lyrique, and first produced at that house in 1860. It appears that the added act, which is in all respects on a larger scale than the others, had an incongruous effect, and the piece ran for twelve nights only. Sixteen years later Gounod, having restored the work to its primitive state, or nearly so, "Philémon et Baucis" was produced at the Opéra Comique, in the repertory of which establishment it has ever since remained. The story is founded, by Messrs. Barbier and Carré, upon a fable by Lafontaine, who himself obtained his materials from Ovid's "Metamorphoses." Nothing could be more simple. Jupiter and Vulcan, on a visit to more simple. earth, are hospitably received by an aged couple, whom they reward with restoration to youth and the possession of affluence. Fuliter at once falls beneath the spell of the rejuvenated wife's beauty, and makes love to her in his well-accurated wife. well-accustomed manner. She, however, remains faithful to her *Philémon*, and, in the end, *Jupiter* abandons his purpose with a good grace. The story gives occasion for various airs and concerted pieces (there is only one chorus, sung off the stage), all more or less charming in melody and orchestration. One of them, "Au bruit des lourds marteaux," has long been familiar in our concert-rooms, and we may say that, as are its merits so, mutatis mutandis, are those of the other numbers. The scoring throughout charms by its delicacy and grace, and the entire opera is one gratefully to be heard by way of relief from others more boisterous and exciting. Miss Simmonet, Messrs. Engel, Bouvet, and Lorrain represented the four characters, doing their work with the characteristic neatness and point of the French stage, and the entire performance gave pleasure to a large audience.

#### ITALIAN OPERA AT THE SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

EARNESTNESS and absorption in the theme are perceptible throughout Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana," with which Signor Lago, on Monday, the 19th ult., began his autumn season of Italian Opera. Into the history of this work, or into detailed description of its action, drawn from Verga's play, it is unnecessary to enter, since full particulars appeared in these columns so far back as September last year. That public interest in England should be aroused by a composition that has enjoyed so much, and, regarding the opera as a whole, deserved popularity on the Continent was natural. "Cavalleria Rusticana" has long been expected in this country, but unlike most things concerning which more than ordinary curiosity is excited, it does not prove disappointing now opportunity is afforded for examination. One of the first claims of the work to respect lies in the fact that the composer seized the spirit of the story at the beginning of his labour, and did not relax his hold until the termination thereof. Furthermore, from the outset he appears to have made up his mind what he would do with it. Thus there is no halting between two opinions. The work must be taken or left. The composer, perhaps, does not always express his meaning quite so felicitously as he might wish, but his design is perfectly clear. Mascagni is evidently a believer in the modern school of Italian musical thought, for indications abound of the influence of Boito, and of the Verdi of lady again showed great capacity as an actress and that "Aïda" and "Otello." Happily he is not to be classed— her voice remained unimpaired in strength and sweetness.

her idea and finish her presentation of the character down at all events, at present-among those composers who consider it beneath their dignity to place on paper melody that has breadth, rhythm, and smoothness. portions are so invariably in accord with the dramatic situation as to render it patent that Mascagni felt his subject. He has musically depicted the reckless and insinuating Turiddu, the heartless betrayer of the peasant girl Santuzza, in glowing colours that typify the dangerous flat databases, in glowing soldier, and there is a delicate plaintiveness in the passages allotted to Santuzza in the earlier scenes that is eloquently expressive of the deserted girl's grief and mortification. Equally telling, in its way, is the illustration of the rough honesty and homeliness of Alfio, who returns from a long journey in the best of spirits to find that his wife is false. The character-istics of these three principals are boldly defined in the music as they enter, and are never altogether lost sight of. This unwavering dramatic truthfulness materially augments the value of "Cavalleria Rusticana" as an art product. It is impossible to regard aught but hopefully the future of the composer who penned the two passionate duets comprised in Santuzza's fruitless appeal to her lover as the voice of the siren Lola summons him away, and in Santuzza's revelation to Alfio of his wife's perfidy; the ardent serenade for tenor, with harp accompaniment, occurring in the Overture; the extremely beautiful instrumental movement for strings, harp, and organ, that allows rest for the eye without involving the descent of the curtain; the vigorous, highly-coloured drinking song that immediately precedes the quarrel between the two men, and the touching farewell of Turiddu to his mother, when he knows that by death at the hand of the husband he has wronged his unworthy conduct must be expiated. It is rare, now-a-days, to meet with a work rich in melodic charm and that has not a dull moment, but to this order of opera belongs the one-act "Cavalleria Rusticana." Of the suitability of Signor Francesco Vignas for the part of Turiddu there could be no question. He looked the young soldier, and whilst acting with the requisite contrasts of abandon and doggedness, was enabled by his robust tenor voice to give adequate effect to the music. The Santuzza of Signorina Adelaide Musiani was better vocally than histrionically. Genuine feeling marked the heroine's endeavours to win back the love of Turiddu, and the duet with Alfio (embodied with judgment by Signor Brombara) was delivered with admirable emphasis. As Lola (provided with a quaint air of the folk-song type) Mdlle. Marie Brema evinced dramatic tact, and Miss Grace Damian, by her unexaggerated portrayal of the anxiety of Turiddu's mother, helped the scenes in which she had a share. The band, including several well-known players, did excellently, under the direction of Signor Arditi, and the chorus was creditable. At the close Signor Lago was warmly complimented upon the success of the initial performance of this work, which has the peculiarity of being unconventional without violating certain canons approved by many generations of music-

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The novelty was preceded by a condensed version of the Brothers Ricci's comic opera "Crispino è la Comare," introduced at Covent Garden a quarter of a century ago, with Madame Adelina Patti as the sprightly Annetta and Signor Ronconi as The Cobbler. The place of these famous vocalists was now taken by Madame Laura Zagury and Signor Ciampi, who loyally strove to offer justification for taking the thin production from the shelf on which it

had so long remained forgotten.

From the energy and force of Mascagni's work to the tame and trivial "Cenerentola" of Rossini was, on Tuesday, the 20th ult., a great drop. Signorina Guerrina Fabbri sang the music of the neglected heroine in bright style, and particularly distinguished herself in the rondo finale "Non più mesta," but in other respects scarcely realised the title part. Signor Ciampi represented the pompous Don Magnifico, Signor Buti was an alert Dandini, and Signor Chinelli was a colourless Don Ramiro, otherwise the Prince. Signor Bimboni, the conductor, had excellent control of the band throughout.

Thursday, the 22nd ult., brought the now seldom-heard "Ernani," with Madame Giulia Valda as Elvira. This

Her fluent delivery of "Ernani, involami," deserved all the approval it received. Signor R. Blanchard's Carlo V. had much merit. A pleasing even voice and method and dignified demeanour led to a repetition of the Finale of the third act, in which occurs the air "O sommo Carlo." The nervousness of Signor Bertini, the tenor, exempted him from criticism; and Signor Giulio Rossi failed to make much of Silva's air "Infelice." The orchestral accompaniments were crisply given, under the bâton of Signor Bimboni.

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Signor Lago again had recourse to Rossini on Saturday, the 24th ult., when the evergreen "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" proved the medium for the re-appearance of Signorina Giuseppina Gargano, who made her début as Rosina during Mr. Mapleson's brief season at Her Majesty's Theatre two years ago. This lady possesses comedy powers that with some measure of success would carry her through an assumption depending so much upon histrionic qualifications even were her vocal gifts much less than they are. She appears to enter fully into the humour of the scenes in which Rosina is the central figure, and is never at a loss, even when her stage surroundings are not altogether encou-Her execution of "Una voce poco fa" was more raging. Her execution of "Una voce poco la" was more noticeable for grace than for dazzling effect, but vocalists enabled to develop all the points of Rossini's florid strains are by no means numerous. Signorina Gargano certainly gets within a measurable distance of proficiency in this particular. As Almaviva Signor Chinelli showed a marked improvement upon his essay in "La Cenerentola," and generally gave evidence of future usefulness. Signor Buti was an intelligible and spirited Figaro, doing fair justice to the music and not lapsing into buffoonery in the more comic scenes. Signor Ciampi was quite at his ease as Bartolo, and Signor Rossi was a creditable Basilio. Rossini's orchestration of course presented no difficulties to the band, conducted by Signor Arditi.

#### CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS

THE opening of the Saturday series, on the 10th ult., was signalised by the rentrée of Madame Patey after her long Antipodean tour, and the first appearance at these Concerts of Herr David Popper, the renowned violoncello virtuoso. It is needless to say that Madame Patey, who contributed Spohr's "Rose softly blooming" and "O salutaris hostia" from Rossin's 'Messe Solennelle,' was very cordially welcomed. As for Herr Popper, he fully justified the high expectations which had been formed of his abilities. Although his tone is not very full, it is both sweet and silky, while his technique is of the first order. In an age which is fond of such analogies, he might not inaptly be styled the Sarasate of the violoncello. Herr Popper introduced his own Concerto in E minor (Op. 24), or, to speak more correctly, one movement of it, though no indication was vouchsafed in the programme as to the partial nature of the performance. Judged by this fragment the work is a highly favourable specimen of virtuoso music, affording ample opportunities for display to the solo instrument, and is at the same time cleverly constructed and elegantly scored. Herr Popper was heard later on in some characteristic trifles of his own, which he rendered with great taste and brilliancy. programme was completed by Beethoven's C minor Symphony, Sterndale Bennett's "Paradise and the Peri" Overture, and the new Ballet airs in "Roméo et Juliette,"

composed for a recent revival of that opera in Paris.

Hans Sitt's interesting Overture to Leschiva's "Don Juan d'Austria" formed the novelty at the second Concert. If we mistake not, a Concerto for violin from the pen of the same author was introduced at a miscellaneous Concert at the Gloucester Festival of 1889 by Mr. Bernhard Carrodus, and the excellent workmanship noticeable in that composition was a prominent feature in the Overture. It is a spirited piece of an essentially emotional character, but coherent throughout, and met with a very cordial reception. Miss Adelina de Lara gave a brilliant rendering of the solo part in Rubinstein's Concerto in D (No. 4), and gained an encore for her playing of Liszt's "Waldesrauschen." Mr. Barton McGuckin sang with much vigour Gounod's "Lend me your aid" and two agreeable songs by M. Bemberg, the author of "Elaine." The Symphony was Schumann's in

once sympathetic and animated. The concert arrangement of the introduction to "Tristan und Isolde" and the

"Oberon" Overture were also included in the programme. On Saturday, the 24th ult., a new Concert-Overture in B minor, "Tam O'Shanter," by Mr. Learmont Drysdale, was brought to a hearing for the first time in England, having been already performed under Mr. Manns's direction last January in Glasgow, where it gained the prize offered by the Glasgow Society of Musicians. Mr. Drysdale, who holds the Charles Lucas Medal at the Royal Academy of Music, where he has studied composition under Mr. Frederic Corder, is a young musician of decided talent, and the opening portions of his Overture are vigorous, sonorous, and attractive. But Mr. Drysdale is unfortunately hampered by the exigencies of his programme, and in his desire to depict the incidents of the poem as vividly as possible, lapses into extravagance. The Scotch patois refuses to blend with the accents of neo-Romanticism, and the latter half of the Overture is incoherent and kaleidoscopic. The work was, how-ever, very cordially received, and Mr. Drysdale, who was summoned to the platform at the close of his work, met with a very friendly reception. M. Sauret displayed great brilliancy of execution and excellence of phrasing in Saint-Saëns's Violin Concerto in B minor (Op. 61), and won an encore for his spirited rendering of Ernst's "Airs Hongrois." The vocalist was Madame Giulia Valda, who courageously essayed an exacting scena from Rubinstein's "Nero," in essayed an exacting seena from Rubinstein's "Nero," in which the high notes tried her to the utmost. She was heard to greater advantage in the well-known Aria from "Roberto," "Nel lasciar la Normandia." A very fine performance of Raff's diffuse but picturesque "Lenore" Symphony was the event of the afternoon.

#### MR. SARASATE'S CONCERT.

So far from diminishing, the popularity of Mr. Sarasate seems still on the increase, for at his first Concert this season at St. James's Hall, on Saturday afternoon, the 17th ult., many persons had to be refused admission. The occasion was of some interest to musicians, for the principal violin solo was Max Bruch's new Concerto, first performed by Dr. Joachim at Düsseldorf in May last. Not a word of description, even as to the naming of the key, was vouch-safed in the programme; but, happily, the work is so clear in construction and detail that cultured listeners had no difficulty in following it with ease. Oddly enough, the composer has selected the same tonality as his second Concerto—namely, D minor—but the resemblance goes no farther. No. 2 is heavy, tedious, and laboured; but No. 3 is full of energy, with well marked themes and grateful passage writing for the solo instrument. At the first hearing the middle section, Adagio in B flat, seemed the most pleasing and spontaneous, both subjects being extremely melodious. The first movement is vigorous and animated, and the treatment of the themes shows the hand of a thorough musician. By comparison, the Finale is weak, only serving as a medium for executive display. These are initial impressions which, of course, may be modified at the next performance, which is fixed for the 13th inst. As a matter of course, the Concerto was rendered with the utmost brilliancy, and, judging from the enthusiastic applause, it made a favourable impression on the audience. In his subsequent solos, Raff's "La Fée d'Amour" and his own "Zigeunerweisen," Mr. Sarasate raised his hearers to such a pitch of enthusiasm that the Concert was unduly prolonged owing to the number of recalls and encores. Fairly good performances were secured of Mozart's Symphony in G minor and Weber's Overture to "Der Freischütz," under the direction of Mr. W. G. Cusins.

#### HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES

coherent throughout, and met with a very cordial reception. Miss Adelina de Lara gave a brilliant rendering of the solo part in Rubinstein's Concerto in D (No. 4), and gained an encore for her playing of Liszt's "Waldesrauschen." Mr. L. Spon, and Miss Robins. Miss Agnes Walker, Miss Barton McGuckin sang with much vigour Gounod's "Lend me your aid" and two agreeable songs by M. Bemberg, the author of "Elaine." The Symphony was Schumann's in Bflat (No. 1), of which Mr. Manns secured a rendering at

The Harvest Festival at St. James the Less, Westminster, held on the 11th ult., was one of exceptional merit. The choir was largely augmented for the occasion, and the Anthems selected were Garrett's "Praise ye the Lord" and the Rev. E. V. Hall's "Praise the Lord," the tenor solo in the latter, "He maketh peace," being sung by Mr. Green. Mr. A. R. Musgrave, the Organist of the Church, is to be congratulated on the highly successful

result of his efforts in training his choir.

On the 12th ult. a Harvest Festival was held at St. Stephen's, Canonbury, the special preacher being Rev. J. F. Kitto, Rector of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. After a shortened form of prayer, read by the Vicar, the Rev. John Parry, Dr. Garrett's Harvest Cantata was given by The solos were intelligently sung by Masters Bell, Willey, and Sansom, and Mr. Ernest J. Godfrey. Mr. Oliver E. F. Cobb, Organist and Choirmaster of the Church, presided at the organ, and Mr. Frank Bell, Choirmaster of St. Mildred's, Bread Street, was an efficient and painstaking Conductor. At the services on Sunday, the 11th ult., special Anthems by Goss and Barnby were sung, the preacher being the Venerable Archdeacon of

Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held at Lewisham Wesleyan Church on the 11th and 12th ult. The Anthems at the Sunday Services were the Rev. E. V. Hall's "Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem," and Stainer's "Ye shall dwell in the land," the solos being taken by Mrs. Benjamin Miller and Mr. H. C. Hoyles. At the Monday evening Service Dr. Chipp's sacred Cantata "Naomi" was performed by an efficient choir, under the direction of Mr. Benjamin Miller, the solos being sung by Mrs. B. Miller, Mrs. Meakins, Mrs. P. Rider, Mr. C. Richards, and Mr. H. C. Hoyles;

Mr. Frank Coucher presided at the organ.

Choral Festivals have been held in St. James's Church, Forest Gate, on the 6th ult., and in Epping Parish Church, on the 17th ult., by the Epping Forest Church Choir Association. The music sung has included Gadsby's Evening Service in C and Stainer's "Lo, summer comes again." The Conductor (Mr. J. W. Ullyett) and Organist (Mr. Henry Riding) were at their respective posts on each

occasion.

The Harvest Festival Service at Holy Trinity Church, West Hill, Wandsworth, took place on the 8th ult. The special Psalm was sung to a new double chant com-Posed for the Festival by Mr. B. Jackson, the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis were sung to a new setting by Mr. H. W. Weston, and the Anthem consisted of Part III. of Handel's "Judas Maccabæus." A small string orchestra assisted in the accompaniments to the Service and Anthem. Mr. B. Jackson (Organist of the People's Palace) presided at the organ, and Mr. H. W. Weston (Organist of the Church) conducted.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Festival was held at St. Mark's, Notting Hill, on Wednesday, the 14th ult. The Magnificat and Nunc dimittis were by Gadsby in C. After the sermon, Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" was sung, the solos being given by Masters Millett and Perry and Mr. Mr. Hamilton Robinson, of St. Stephen's, Albon Nash. Gloucester Road, presided at the organ; Mr. Warren Tear, Organist and Choirmaster of St. Mark's, conducted.

The Harvest Festival was celebrated at Christ Church, Clapham, on the 15th ult., in the presence of a large congregation. The short service was followed by a very interesting sermon, after which Weber's Harvest Cantata was sung. The soprano solo was taken by Master E. Williams, who gave a very successful rendering of the long solo and was equally successful in the florid quartet. The tenor and bass solos were given with good effect by Messrs.

Cox and Mossman. Mr. George Way, the Organist, conducted the choruses, which were given with admirable precision; Mr. F. Harold Hankins rendered valuable assistance at the organ.

After the Harvest Festival Service at St. Mary's, Kilburn, on Sunday evening, the 11th ult., Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" was sung by the choir. The service was in every way a decided success; the large congregation joined most heartily in the singing and afterwards listened attentively to the Cantata, the choruses of which were sung with great precision, while the phrasing was well marked. There is at this Church a rare instance of the develop-

ment of good music in a pronounced "Evangelical" church; the choir is large and thoroughly efficient, and at the close of the evening service on the third Sunday in every month a Cantata is sung and listened to by large congregations, many of whom bring their scores with them The works announced for the ensuing months are "The The works announced for the ensuing months are 'Ine Daughter of Jairus," "The Last Judgment," "Tribulation," "Gallia," "The Messiah," the 42nd Psalm, Bach's "Magnificat," "St. Paul," and the 95th Psalm. The Organist and Director of the choir is Mr. Edgar Pettman. Mr.

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Harvest Festival Services were held at St. Andrew's, Ashley Place, Westminster, on the 8th ult., and continued on the 11th ult. (Sunday). At morning prayer the Te Deum and Jubilate were sung to Lloyd in E flat, the Anthem being Stainer's "Ye shall dwell in the land." At the mid-day celebration, Wesley in E and Stainer in A were used with the ancient Confession and Pater Noster. At Evensong the Canticles were sung to Stanford's setting in A, and the Anthem was "Heaven and the earth display, from Mendelssohn's "Athalie." At the conclusion of the service Smart's Te Deum was sung before the altar, the congregation taking their part with great effect. Organ Recitals were given after the evening services by Mr. G.F.

#### OBITUARY.

AT Liverpool, on the 20th ult., JAMES SANDERS died suddenly, only having survived his wife by a few months The deceased, says Mr. Argent's monograph "Half a Century of Music in Liverpool," "came to that city about 1844 from Portsmouth, where he had started professional life as a clarinet player. His first experience of handling a chorus here was in 1845, when he coached local choristers for the production of the 'Bohemian Girl' at the Theatre Royal, of the orchestra of which he was then a member. In this production the ballet girls of the theatre sang treble, and the rest of the chorus was made up of resident male altos, tenors, and basses. The opera was played every night for a month, the entire season extending over three months. One Aldridge was leader, and, as usual in those days, there was no conductor. The lessees of the theatre were then webster and Celeste, and the principals—a somewhat scratch lot presumably—partly came from London and were partly of local origin. Mr. Sanders was for long a double-bass player, as well as a teacher of music and an analysis of the second origin. organist. In the latter capacity he officiated at St. Mary's and afterwards at St. Francis Xavier's Churches. He also conducted the once famous Liverpool Musical Society, prepared the chorus of the Musical Festival held in 1874, and was chief of the famous representative choir." deceased became Chorusmaster of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society in 1870, and retained the position till the advent of Max Bruch in 1880. He was seventy-three years

M. JEAN PAQUE, the celebrated trombone player (late Professor of the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels), died at that town on the 19th ult., at the age of sixty-two, after a

long illness.

Mr. WILLIAM SANTLEY, father of the well known baritone, died at his residence, 68, Chatham Street, Liverpool, on the 22nd ult., from an attack of bronchitis. deceased served his time as a bookbinder, and was afterwards a collector under the Corporation for twenty-four years. He subsequently became a professor of music, was organist at several churches in the City, and had been employed as a teacher until quite recently. The deceased was eighty-two years of age.

#### MUSIC IN BIRMINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE alteration in the date of the Festival necessarily caused a re-arrangement of the principal annual series of Concerts given here. However, the interregnum has not been very long, the musical ball being set rolling by the Birmingham and Midland Musical Guild, whose annual Conversazione took place at the Grand Hotel on Saturday, the 17th ult. The attendance of members and friends was very large, and the magnificent rooms of the reconstructed building presented a brilliant spectacle. The President,

Mr. E. J. Breakspeare, took the chair, and a capital progelical" Mr. E. J. Breakspeare, took the chair, and a capital programme was artistically interpreted by Madame Edelmüller, Miss Lizzie Preston, Mr. Arthur, and Mr. R. E. Riley, vocalists; Mr. T. M. Abbott, violinist; Miss Lily Jones, Mr. Oscar Pollack, Mr. William Sewell, and Mr. Henry Taylor, pianists. Chief among the pieces given was the Sonata in D, for pianoforte and violin, by the late Mr. Ferdinand Praeger, performed by Mr. Taylor and Mr. and at nday in y large h them "The lation, Bach's Abbott in memoriam. The tman.

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Mr. C. W. Perkins, the City Organist, resumed his Organ Recitals at the Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, the 24th ult., the first programme consisting of a selection of movements from the works produced at the late Festival

The Saturday Popular Concerts in the Town Hall were started, on the 24th ult., by Mr. George Halliley, assisted by Mr. Musgrove Tufnail and Mr. Randell's choir. The Birmingham Choral and Orchestral Association announces six of these Saturday Evening Concerts during the season, but the Musical Guild has not yet given any sign in the matter.

Messrs. Harrison will, as hitherto, give four grand Subscription Concerts, the first of which, when Madame Adelina Patti will be the great attraction, being fixed for the 26th ult., too late for notice in this letter.

The Festival Choral Society, compelled to postpone its opening Concert and to curtail its scheme, owing to the date of the Festival, begins operations on the 19th inst., when Mendelssohn's "St. Paul'" will be produced. At Stanford's "Eden" and Dr. Dvorák's "Requiem"—will be brought forward, the latter being bracketed with Sullivan's "Prodigal Son," a by no means felicitous arrangement.

Mr. Stockley limits himself to three Concerts this season, The list of artists is a strong one, but, so far, there is no

The list of artists is a strong one, but, so far, there is no indication of the works to be produced.

The Midland Musical Society, a very large amateur choir, conducted by a zealous amateur, Mr. H. M. Stevenson, is busy preparing Dr. Mackenzie's Oratorio "The Rose of Sharon" for performance during the season.

The death of Dr. W. A. Barrett came as a great shock

to his many friends in Birmingham, and especially to those associated with him during the recent Festival. His genial manner and kindly disposition made him very dear to those acquainted with him, and his death will be to them a personal loss of no ordinary kind.

#### MUSIC IN BRADFORD AND DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MR. MISDALE opened his season of Chamber Music at Bradford on the 15th ult. The subscription list is well sustained, and Mr. Misdale provides liberally and intelligently for the "high and dry" supporters of the art. With the assistance of Mr. A. E. Bartle he presented, among other pieces, duets for two pianofortes—the remarkable Variations, by Saint-Saëns, of a Theme by Beethoven, having the preference in point of interest. The vocalists were Miss Jessie Hotine (soprano) and Miss Marie Hooton (contralto), whose voices made an agreeable first impression on the audience.

A somewhat ambitious but fairly creditable effort was made to produce Cowen's "Sleeping Beauty" at a Concert given by the Horton Lane Congregational Guild, on the 15th ult. of the Horton Lane Congregational Guild, on the 15th untiThe intrinsic merit of the work itself, and the freshness and
vigour of the chorus were elements of success. The principals were Miss Clara Marshall, Miss Mary Tetley, Mr.
Charles Blagbro, and Mr. W. H. Lister. Mr. S. Whiteley
was at the pianoforte and Mr. A. Gledhill conducted the performance. Violin solos were rendered by Miss E. M. Yates.

Dr. Garrett's Harvest Cantata retains its popularity.

Dr. Garrett's Harvest Cantata retains its popularity, and its suitability was further demonstrated at the Festival of St. John's Church, Little Horton Lane, on the 9th ult. It was admirably presented by the ordinary choir, under the direction of Mr. Henry Coates, and its performance was the leading element of a most successful celebration.

An event of more than ordinary interest was the production of a new comic opera at the Grand Theatre, Halifax, on the 20th ult. The work is a local product, Mr. M. J. Blatchford being responsible for the lyrics and

Mr. J. H. Sykes for the music. Though the Gilbert-Sullivan models have been copied rather closely, both gentlemen have gone about their work in an artistic spirit, and their collaboration has yielded a bright and tuneful and their collaboration has yielded a bright and tineful opera. The performance went well, and the audience were effusive in their appreciation. The leading parts were in the hands of Mr. Cairus James and Miss Jessie Moore; but otherwise the parts were sustained by Halifax amateurs, Mrs. F. Greenwood, Mr. J. Mitchell, and Mr. H. Shepley sharing the most important work. Mr. Sydney Jones was the Conductor of an admirable orchestra.

#### MUSIC IN BRISTOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE musical season opened in Bristol on the 3rd ult., when the Saturday Popular Concerts recommenced. The reputation of the choir for singing with skill, intelligence, and taste part-songs, glees, and choruses, which has been long established, was well maintained, the pieces brought forward being pleasing to the tastes of the artisan classes who assembled to listen to them. Organ solos, played by Mr. Riseley, and selections performed by the band, proved an agreeable variety. Songs were sung by Miss Minnie Robinson, Miss Kate Morgan, Mr. R. W. Evans, and Mr. A. H. Perkins.

Miss Mabel Rootham, the daughter of the respected Chorusmaster of the Bristol Festival Society, who has just completed her studies at the Royal College of Music, where she was the first to hold the Bristol Scholarship, made her public dibut at the Victoria Rooms on the 9th ult., before a large assemblage. The lady showed herself to be a skilful and cultured pianist and proved that she had studied earnestly under the guidance of Mr. Franklin Taylor. Her solos were a Romance of Haberbier, Mendelssohn's Prelude and Fugue in E minor, Schumann's "Des Abends," and a Scherzo of Chopin. These she played with a technique well nigh perfect, and interpreted in a highly praiseworthy manner, winning the hearty encomiums of the audience.
The other artists who took part in the Concert were Miss
Minnie Chamberlain (who has also passed through the College), Mr. Rootham, each contributing songs; Mr. Richard Gompertz, violin; Mr. W. H. Squire, a brilliant violoncellist, who received his tuition at the South Kensington establishment: Mr. Jacoby, viola; and Miss Chute.

Eight candidates entered the competition for the vacant scholarship on the 10th ult. Messrs. G. Riseley, D. W. Rootham, and John Barrett, the Examiners, awarded it to Miss Carrington, the daughter of the leader of the band of the Monday Popular Concerts. The young lady passed in singing, which branch of the art she has but recently taken up, having previously studied the pianoforte under Mr.

The Bristol Musical Festival Society's singing classes re-started on the 14th ult., under encouraging auspices. In addition to the elementary, intermediate, and advanced grades, there have been added a ladies class and a voicetraining class. Messrs. Walter J. Kidner and Edward Cook are the Conductors, as heretofore.

On the 10th ult. the first Monday Popular Concert (orchestral) of a new season took place under the direction of Mr. George Riseley. The band, constituted as before of leading local players and others from a distance, displayed its former high standard of excellence, and performed Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony and Weber's "Oberon" Overture, among other pieces. They were given with spirit and artistic excellence. Miss Agnes Bartlett, a talented pianist, and Miss Greta Williams and Mr. Edwin Houghton, vocalists, who made their first appearance in Bristol, made each a favourable impression.

Sir George Edwards, treasurer of the Bristol Musical Festival Society, on the 21st ult., distributed the certificates won by the candidates who recently submitted themselves for examination in connection with the National Society or

Professional Musicians.
The Bristol Choral Society, numbering 500 voices, and Mr. Riseley's band, gave an exceptionally fine performance of Haydn's "Creation" on the 23rd ult. The principal vocalists were Madame Albani, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, who came to Bristol

may be said that they sang with their accustomed excellence of voice and artistic method. The choir, which had spent months in preparing what was already a familiar work to the majority of the members, delivered the choruses with remarkable finish, which redounded both to their credit and that of the talented and painstaking Conductor. An improvement was also effected in those recitatives which are generally supported by the violoncellos and basses by Mr. Riseley's having arranged the accompaniments for all the strings. second part of the programme was also interesting. It contained C. H. H. Parry's "Blest Pair of Sirens," which received a spirited interpretation under the direction of the composer. Mr. Santley sang Schubert's "The Erl-King," the accompaniment to which he had himself arranged for the band, and conducted a new piece for orchestra—a "Cradle Song"—from his own pen. Madame Albani, who sang for the last time in England prior to her departure for America, contributed "Home, sweet home," and was enthusiastically cheered. Mr. Lloyd gave "Lend me your aid," of Gounod; and the band performed Wagner's "Tannhäuser" Overture and Berlioz's Hongroise March.

#### MUSIC IN DUBLIN.

#### (FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE musical season may be said to have commenced with the first of Dr. Collisson's rightly named Popular Concerts on the 13th ult. The Leinster Hall on this evening was crowded in all parts with an appreciative audience. The principal vocalists engaged by Dr. Collisson were Madame Alice Gomez, Miss Hutton (Contralto), Mr. Ludwig, who is sure of a welcome in his native city, Mr. Tivadar Nachèz, and the Queen Vocal Quartet of ladies, whose rendering of some Irish melodies met with much acceptance. Dr. Collisson, who conducted, made the announcement, amidst great applause, that he intends to organise a Musical Festival in Dublin in 1803. This is good news.

Dr. Collisson is also to be thanked for the three interesting Musical Lectures of the Rev. Mr. Haweis, which took place in the Leinster Hall on September 26, 28, and

29, and were well attended.

Two Italian Operatic Concerts, by arrangement between Mr. Michael Gunn and Signor Lago, were given in the Leinster Hall on the 19th and 20th ult., at which Mdlles. Leinster Hall on the 19th and 20th ult, at which Mdlles. Giulia and Sofia Ravogli appeared, supported by Signor Frisco (tenor), Signor Lorenzi (baritone), Miss Marie Douglas (violinist), and Signor Mascheroni (solo pianist and accompanist). The gifted sisters were heard together in Donizetti's "Addio" (in which they were encored), and in Caracciolo's "Rime popolari" Mdlle. Giulia Ravogli also sang "Che farò" from Gluck's "Orféo," and the "Habanera" from "Carmen," and Mdlle. Sofia gave "Piano, piano," from "Der Freischütz," which awakened the greatest enthusiasm in the audience. The other artists were also much appreciated. were also much appreciated.

The Mozart Centenary has set our Musical Societies to work on the old master's reliques for their Autumn The Dublin Musical Society is to give us the Twelfth Mass; the Dublin Choral Union the same in English; and the University Choral Society is preparing

the " Requiem."

#### MUSIC IN EDINBURGH AND DUNDEE.

#### (FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

What promises to be an unusually busy concert season opened early on the 15th ult., with the first of Messrs. Paterson's Concert series. It is very seldom indeed that a "combination" of artists deserves such uniform eulogy as was the case in the Ysaÿe-Gérardy party. The sensation of the evening certainly was Master Gérardy's wonderful violoncello playing, which seems to leave nothing for years to mature. His solos were rapturously applauded, and the delicious simplicity of his encore (Bach's Aria in D) was convincing proof of his artistic maturity. M. Ysaÿe's performance of Bach's Sarabande Double and Bourrée was one of the most notable feats in violin virtuosity which has ever been heard in Edinburgh. In Bruch's "Fantaisie Ecossaise," a brilliant Mazurka by Zarzycki, and the showy and the friends who have agreed to lecture during the

purposely, was leader of the orchestra. For the soloists it | cheval de bataille, Wieniawski's Air Russe, M. Ysave confirmed his claim to the first rank among violin artists, Herr Schönberger's technique leaves nothing to be desired, and a Hungarian Rhapsody of his own was as warmly received as brilliantly played. Madame Amy Sherwin's singing of two Schubert songs and Lassen's "Frühling" singing of two Schubert songs and Lassen's "Fruhling" was particularly charming, and Miss Girtin Barnard's pleasant voice and excellent method (especially in a Dutch Lullaby, "Wynken, Blynken, and Nod") won her many friends. It would be wrong to omit mention of a most perfect accompanist, Mr. Waddington Cooke, whose sympathetic interpretation of his duties was even more marked than his technical skill. The concepted pieces marked than his technical skill. The concerted pieces were an early Mozart Sonata for violin and pianoforte, deliciously played, and a movement from Rubinstein's Trio in B flat, which was not so carefully nor so successfully performed.

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Practically the same programme opened Messrs. Paterson's Dundee Subscription Concerts on the 13th ult., and

attracted a good audience to the Kinnaird Hall.

On the 20th ult. Mr. Paderewski gave a Recital in the Music Hall, Edinburgh. It is a matter for regret that there was not a larger audience attracted to hear him, who must be called the greatest living pianist after Rubinstein. Throughout a long and arduous programme Mr. Paderewski only added to his fame, and the enthusiasm he evoked was unbounded.

On the 10th ult. Mr. Peterson's choir hazarded the chances of the weather and were rewarded by a magnificent afternoon for an open-air Concert given, by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. George Baxter, on the beautiful lawn of Ashcliffe. Mendelssohn's Open-Air Music was naturally largely drawn on, and "Departure" was the most generally liked number in the programme. "Down in a flowery dale," Mr. F. Peterson's setting of "Bonnie wee thing," and Hatton's "Summer gale" divided the honours, where all were equally well sung. Mr. Peterson's arrangement of "God save the Queen," for unaccompanied voices, closed the programme, and Mr. Ross evidently expressed the hearty feelings of a large audience when he proposed thanks to Mr. Peterson for the successful performance of a daring feat, and hoped that a similar experiment would soon be attended with equal success.

#### MUSIC IN GLASGOW.

#### (FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE series of Concerts given by the Choral Union has commenced, and very auspiciously. The first for the season was given on the evening of the 14th ult., when the programme was in the safe charge of Messrs. Ysaye, Schönberger, Jean Gérardy, and Madame Amy Sherwin. Chamber music, pure and simple, was represented by three movements from Rubinstein's melodious Trio in B flat major with its insinuating scherzo. The ensemble was excellent, and later on the Belgian violinist showed his artistic perception of Bach and Handel, and again won the highest encomiums by reason of his unerring intonation and purity of style. He was, perhaps, unfortunate in selecting Max Bruch's "Fantaisie Ecossaise" as a vehicle for the display of his acquirements. The composition does not overflow with inspiration, though the audience followed with manifest interest the local colour as it occurs to the Teutonic mind. The reception accorded Master Jean Gérardy was also exceedingly cordial, and the opinions formed elsewhere of the youngster's wonderfully matured style were endorsed to the full. Mr. Schönberger has like-wise made many friends here, and there was only one opinion as to the good taste displayed by Madame Sherwin in her selection of songs-examples of Schubert, Dvorák, and Lassen, sung in sympathetic style.

Last month's miscellaneous Concerts were more or less

interesting. "Nikita" and party came to St. Andrew's Hall, and made an impression of a well enough known character; and the Glasgow Quartet opened its season on the 16th ult. The players had again a cordial welcome; but many folks still marvel at the prominence accorded foreign instrumentalists, when it is remembered that excellent material can be had in our own country. The syllabus of the Glasgow Society of Musicians came out the other day,

approaching winter are all very welcome. They include Mr. Julius Seligmann, the esteemed President, and Mr. James Richardson, one of Glasgow's most respected amateurs.

The sudden and unexpected death of Dr. W. A. Barrett will rob the Society of one of its most interesting Lecturers, and his friends in Glasgow will deeply deplore the loss of a

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clever musician and genial companion.

At Mr. Paderewski's Recital, on the 19th ult., the Polish At Mr. Faderwski s keetal, on the 19th lit., the Poissipianist submitted an excellent programme, but the audience, unfortunately, was not so large as it ought to have been. Mr. Sarasate and Madame Bertha Marx were announced to give a Recital on the 26th ult., and with a programme which included Dr. A. C. Mackenzie's "Pibroch" for solo violin. The brilliant composition has the discoursed high funnt in Chargon. already secured high favour in Glasgow.

The Glasgow Academy Choir, over which Mr. John McLaren so worthily presides, have taken up Mr. J. More Smieton's interesting Cantata "King Arthur," and remarkable progress has already been made with the work.

#### MUSIC IN LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

As seemed to be foreshadowed in the initial circular, and according to practice which has unfortunately prevailed of late, the present season of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society promised to be of but little interest. The latest intelligence, however, furnishes one particular exception. The one bright spot in the entire prospectus is the final Con-cert, for which Dvorák's "Requiem" is announced. Gade's B flat Symphony, which is familiar as a household word, occupied the place of honour at the first Concert, given on the 13th ult., and a Haydn Symphony was announced for the The soloists engaged for these Concerts respectively were Miss Macintyre and Mr. Paderewski, and Mr. E.

Lloyd, and Master Gérardy

The Mount Pleasant Choral Society, conducted by Mr. The Mount Pleasant Choral Society, conducted by Mr. W. Lee, is practising Sullivan's Festival Te Deum, and two new choral societies have recently been organised, one at St. Michael's, under Mr. T. C. Jones, and another at Sefton Park, under Mr. T. H. Kinsey. The last-named is rehearsing Dr. Parry's "Judith," and this seems to be about the only thing in the way of even quasi-novelties that has been taken up in this locality; while in Birkenhead the St. Cecilia, under Mr. Appleyard, has undertaken the revival of "St. Paul." Also on the Cheshire side the Rock Ferry Society, under Mr. Pemberton, has programmed Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," Smart's "Bride of Dunkerron," and J. F. Bridge's "Callirhoë," while at the other end of the same peninsular the Wallasey Society. other end of the same peninsular the Wallasey Society, under Mr. John Ross, have taken in hand Cowen's "St. John's Eve." The Runcorn Musical Society are preparing Rossini's "Stabat Mater" for Christmastide.

Late in September, on the 28th and 30th respectively, and at the churches of West Derby and All Saints, there were important musical services. At the former Sullivan's "Prodigal Son" was given, under Mr. T. J. Hughes, and at the latter Haydn's "Creation" was performed for the second time recently, under Mr. R. Lee. On the 22nd ult. a lengthy selection from Handel's "Messiah" was given at St. Nathaniel's, under the conductorship of Mr. H.

Jennings.

The Liverpool Sunday Society held the inaugural meeting of the present session on the 18th ult., at the Rotunda Lecture Hall. The programme was provided by the Sunday Society orchestra, a band of forty professional performers, together with Madame Florence Dick and Mr. John Henry, vocalists, and Miss L. Ross, solo pianist, the latter performing Mendelssohn's G minor Concerto. Mr. latter performing Mendelssohn's G minor Concerto. Argent conducted, and there was an audience of about twelve hundred.

If Liverpool is not as progressive as might be desired in regard to choral music, in orchestral work this city may be said to take a very important position. On the 24th ult. the Societa Armonica, established in 1847, gave its ninety-third

There is also the long-established Wirral String Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Schiever, at Birkenhead, and half-a-dozen or more less important instrumental organisations are to be found in the city and suburbs.

During the past month Mr. Paderewski gave a couple of Recitals, the second being evoked by the wonderful reception accorded the pianist at the first, and in the immediate future quite a number of Concerts of the ballad order are announced. So also are a series of Chamber afternoons at the Art Club by the Schiever Quartet, and Subscription Concerts at Bootle, Liscard, West Kirby, and elsewhere.

The annual distribution of certificates, &c., granted at this centre by Trinity College, London, took place on the 24th ult., under the auspices of the Mayor and Mayoress. Mr. J. J. Monk was, as usual, in charge of affairs; and addresses were delivered by Dr. E. H. Turpin and Mr. C. E. Willing.

#### MUSIC IN MANCHESTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SWEET sounds now float around us, and we seem to have plunged into the very heart of the festive season. Our central and suburban choral societies are vigorously setting about their work, and all is bright and promising among those bodies of enthusiastic amateurs upon whose eagerness to become acquainted with all that is new and good our progress so largely depends. At the larger and more expensive ventures the prudence of adhering to well-known and generally popular compositions is weighed, perhaps too cautiously and exclusively; but the societies which consider chiefly the interest and delight of their members, and are not much fettered by pecuniary necessities, can afford to move out of the beaten track and may dare to be so far free as to essay the modest production of works which would, as yet, fail to attract a large general audience. By their efforts the way is being prepared steadily for a wider appreciation of the vast strides which musical knowledge is making amongst us. In due course it will be pleasant to report the manner in which the best of our district choirs and bands beguile the tedious hours of the winter evenings.

evenings.

Very energetic efforts are being made to revive the glory of the Gentlemen's Concerts, which claim to be the oldest institution of the kind in the North, if not in the whole of England. Many years ago a great mistake was made by a committee utterly incapable of perceiving the signs of the times, and the Concert-hall has ever since been gradually losing its prestige. Steadily the subscription list has diminished, and the capital fund has been drawn upon to support the annual expenditure. The efforts of a more energetic body of directors have failed to re-establish the Society in its old place in the public extern. But, nothing Society in its old place in the public esteem. But, nothing daunted, they are now exerting themselves in a manner which, at any rate, deserves to be successful. The charming hall, with its admirable saloon and comfortable surroundings, has been decorated with a taste which was very warmly praised at the crowded gathering on the 12th very warmiy praised at the crowded gathering on the 12th ult., when, with a blending of pleasant music and conversation, the season opened. Some excellent violin playing by a new resident here, Miss Von Zerdahelyi, with Mr. Marmaduke Barton's rendering of Schumann's "Papillons," the sympathetic singing of Purcell's "I attempt from love's sickness to fly," by Miss Frederika B. Taylor, and the exhibition by Mr. Horsfall of a fine bass voice which ought to be selling the set excepted by negot human and to be cultivated, served to set everybody in good humour and to kindle the warm hope that it is not too late to re-awaken much of the old pride in an institution formerly playing so large a part in Manchester musical life, and which may, perhaps, yet be fated to preserve it during the crisis, which must come sooner or later. And the success of the opening night was carried still farther by the kindness of the Mayoress (Mrs. Mark), who, on the afternoon of the 20th ult., gathered around her at the Town Hall a bevy of ladies who may be supposed to be specially interested in the continuance of assemblies having fully as great social as musical charm.

At St. James's Hall Mr. Barrett has commenced well, pro-Concert under Mr. C. Cafferata, and on the last day of the widing for his first Concert a strong party, including Messrs. month just concluding the Liverpool Orchestral Society. Ysaye and Schönberger, with the wonderful boy violon-under Mr. A. E. Rodewald, announced a comprehensive cellist, Jean Gérardy, and Madame Amy Sherwin and Miss Girtin Barnard as vocalists. On the 14th ult. Herr Paderewski's playing proved so attractive that he had to return on the 24th and bid farewell to his many admirers at a Concert enlivened and diversified by the charming ballad singing of Madame Clara Samuell and Mr. Plunket

Greene.

At the Free Trade Hall Mr. G. W. Lane commenced, on the 21st ult., a series of Wednesday evening Concerts upon a far higher plan than heretofore; and there is no doubt that he has judiciously chosen a night on which, generally, there are not many musical attractions, and when the half-holiday, now becoming so well established here, leaves a large number of people free to seek relaxation and amusement. Madame Patey made her first appearance in Manchester since her return from the East, and was warmly received.

The Vocal Society, under Dr. Watson, resumed public work on the 14th ult., giving Gade's "Crusaders" and an Anthem by Mr. John Wrigley; and from the notice of our regular artistic treats we may by no means omit Mr. Pyne's excellent Organ Recitals at the Town Hall, nor Mr. Cross's

Popular Entertainments at the Association Hall.

But, adding to all this that Master Sharples gave an Organ Recital at St. Peter's Church on the 20th ult., it will be seen that Manchester musicians are not altogether idle, while eagerly awaiting the return of Sir Charles Hallé, and such a performance of the C minor Symphony (I need not say whose) as his hand can give us.

say whose) as his band can give us.

Among the flying visits of artists with whose terms ordinary speculators are unable to grapple we welcomed the sisters Ravogli on the 22nd ult. (at the Concert of Messrs. Forsyth), and on the 30th ult., for "auld acquaintance sake," cheered Madame Patti, who was brought by Messrs.

Hime and Addison.

For the present a simple record must suffice of the first appearance here of the London Military Band—an event of peculiar interest in this district, where brass and reed bands abound.

#### MUSIC IN NOTTINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Sacred Harmonic Society and Philharmonic Society promise great things to their patrons, and we may look forward to greater excellence in choral work than Notting-The progress in choral singing here ham has ever known. nam has ever known. The progress in choral singing nere is remarkable and is due largely to the efforts of the Conductors of these Societies—Mr. Adcock and Mr. Marshall-Ward. In fact, it is becoming an axiom of concert management in this town that none but the best music, well performed, will draw. May this prove to apply in the case of Mr. Allen's Popular Chamber Concerts, which new venture deserves success. His first Concert was given on the 19th ult., the artists being the Schiever Quartet and Miss Cantelo. Miss Cantelo displayed the highest qualifications in the Schumann Quintet and in the pianoforte part of Beethoven's Violin Sonata in F. Herr Schiever's violin playing is marred by exaggerated expression. The attendance at this Concert was not Perhaps the unusually early hour and encouraging. tempestuous weather may have accounted for this.

#### MUSIC IN SHEFFIELD.

(From our own Correspondent.)

AFTER the stagnation of the summer, the past month has witnessed an active revival in musical matters, and there is every indication of an exceptionally busy winter season. The number of miscellaneous Concerts promised is unusually large, among the most interesting being the Concert parties headed respectively by Madame Patti, Mr. Sarasate, Sir Charles Hallé, and Dr. Joachim. One or two Orchestral Concerts are announced, and Mr. Reynolds's excellent series of Subscription Chamber Concerts will be resumed. The prospectuses of the various local choral and instrumental societies are now issued, and the works to be performed show an increase in number if not in interest. Novelties are, as usual, conspicuous by their absence, the selection committees evidently preferring to rely upon familiar works. The Amateur Musical Society announces Sullivan's "Liebt The Amat

of the World," to be given in December; for the spring Concert a Festival novelty will doubtless be forthcoming, Mr. A. R. Gaul's new Cantata, "The Ten Virgins," is to be introduced to the town by the Heeley Harmonic Society, a suburban association that has done good work in bringing forward new compositions. The same Society also announces Coward's "Story of Bethany." The Musical Union will likewise perform Mr. Coward's work, and at the second Concert Spohr's "Last Judgment" will be rendered. The St. Cecilia Society promises "Israel in Egypt," "Messiah," and "St. Paul." The Choral Union will give a Concert performance of "Gounod's "Faust."

The Collegiate Orchestral Society gave the first Concert of the season on the 26th ult., playing Mozart's Symphony in D major, Overtures to "Fidelio" and "Athalie," and Sullivan's "Henry VIII." music. Mr. S. Suckley conducted and Miss Moggie Davis, uses the vecelies.

ducted, and Miss Maggie Davis was the vocalist.

Mr. E. P. Reynolds's series of Chamber Concerts were inaugurated on the 28th ult., too late for detailed notice in this letter. A Concert of more than ordinary interest took place on the 29th ult., when Messrs. W. H. Peasegood and J. H. Parkes gave their annual Pianoforte and Violin Recital. Mr. Parkes, a talented local violinist, was announced to play, for the first time in Sheffield, Dr. Mackenzie's "Pibroch."

#### MUSIC AT BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On Monday, the 19th ult., a regular Patti crowd crushed into the Philharmonic to listen to Madame Sembrich, who is now settled in Berlin, and much adored by the musical public. The occasion was a performance of Schumann's "Das Paradies und die Peri" by the Stern'scher Gesangverein, conducted by Professor Gernsheim. It must not be supposed that Madame Sembrich as the *Peri* in any way recalled the Sembrich we know in England, the brilliant operatic soprano, revelling in the florid passages of Lucia's mad scene. The part of the Peri is painted by Schumann in quiet, almost sombre, colours, and much of the music would seem better suited to a mezzo than to a genuine soprano; and indeed it was in this portion of her task that Madame Sembrich was perhaps most satisfactory, her lower register proving deliciously full and sweet, as shown in the first solo, "Wie glücklich sie wandeln," and in the slow suave passage, "Ich kenne die Urnen." This was the first time that Madame Sembrich had sung the part, and her every note was followed with critical appreciation by the audience, not a few of whom had ineffaceable memories of Jenny Lind in the same work. Vocally, Madame Sembrich came triumphant through the severe ordeal; Vocally, Madame but that she altogether succeeded in realising the halfangelic, half-earthly being conceived by Schumann cannot be asserted. Her singing of the lovely slumber song over the be dies of the youth and maiden came very near perfection, while the solo "Sei dies mein Geschenk" (sung together with the spirited chorus "Heilig ist das Blut") showed that her higher notes retain all the power and much of the sweetness of former years. Herr Wulff, whose beautiful tenor voice has received the advantages of Stockhausen's training, did much with a thankless part, a great deal of which would lie low for a baritone, and Fraulein Asmann and Herr von Milde completed an excellent quartet. The performance, as a whole, was good, though the orchestra was often too loud in accompanying the solos, while the choir made up in intelligence what they lacked in tone.

The month has brought few events of general interest at the Opera House, where Wagner and Mozart have provided by far the greater portion of the musical fare, the performances of "Tristan" and "Tannhäuser" gaining a special interest by the presence of Frau Sucher and Herr Gudehus. "Carmen" has been given for the sake of Frau Ritter-Goetze, of the New York Metropolitan, who made a great

success as Merimée's wilful heroine.

of Subscription Chamber Concerts will be resumed. The prospectuses of the various local choral and instrumental societies are now issued, and the works to be performed show an increase in number if not in interest. Novelties are, as usual, conspicuous by their absence, the selection committees evidently preferring to rely upon familiar works. The Amateur Musical Society announces Sullivan's "Light"

The performance of Nessler's "Trompeter von Säkkingen," on the 16th ult., gave Herr Rud. Oberhauser the favourite rôle of Werner, which he has sung over a hundred times. Herr Oberhauser, who has been for many years attached to the Berlin Opera, is still in possession of his powers, and will devote himself, for the future, to Concert

A FOUR-PART SONG.

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of 'Peace on carth, good-will to men.'"—LONGFELLOW.

Words by S. CHILDS CLARKE, Vicar of Thorverton, Devon.

Composed by ARTHUR HENRY BROWN.

London: NOVELLO, EWER AND CO., 1, Berners Street (W.), and 80 & SI, Queen Street (E.C.); also in New York.



The Musical Times, No. 585.

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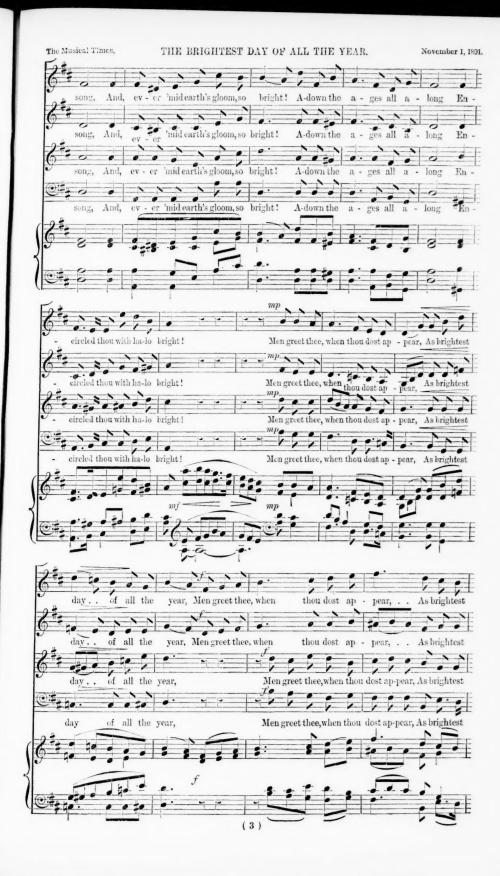
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A brilliant house, including the Emperor and Empress, testified to the interest which was felt in the production, on the 21st ult., of Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana." The opera is not altogether new to Berlin; the honour of its introduction here belongs to Herr Angelo Neumann, who produced it with an excellent ensemble at the Lessing Theatre last July. The success which it instantly obtained was quite extraordinary, and since then the famous Intermezzo has been included in every Concert programme in which it could, with any propriety, find a place. Indeed, sion produced by Mascagni's picturesque and passionate work has been phenomenal, and signs are not wanting of a partial re-action among the critics against the almost extravagant praise which has been lavished on it. However, last night's performance was but a repetition of the wonted success which attends this work, even to the enforced encoring of the Intermezzo, an indulgence rarely permitted at this Opera House. To speak briefly of the representation, Frau Sucher was excellent as Santuzza, Frau Staudigl and Fräulein Rothauser more than efficient as Lucia and Lola, while the parts of Turiddu and Alfio were unevenly played by Herren Betz and Sylva. The alternative cast is as follows: Santuzza, Frau Pierson; Lola, Fräulein Dietrich; Turiddu, Herr Rothmühl; Alfio, Herr Bulss.

Although the concert season proper can scarcely be said to begin till the return of Von Bülow, who resumes his post as Conductor of the Philharmonic Concerts on the 26th inst, there has been no lack of concert music of all kinds. Of first importance for the musical life of Berlin must be reckoned the Popular Concerts by the Philharmonic Orchestra, under Herr Rud. Herfurth. Every Sunday, Every Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the fine hall of the Philharmonic is crowded by what is, perhaps, the most extraordinary audience in Europe—men and women of the upper and lower bourgeois classes, who buy their tickets at six shillings a dozen, bring their sandwiches with them, call freely for their beer, and yet sit in perfect silence round the innumerable small tables and listen with calm enjoyment to a three or four hours' programme, chiefly of Wagner, Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven, where any less classical name than Rubinstein rarely finds a place. take a typical programme, the performance on Wednesday, the 21st ult., began with Mendelssohn's Overture to "Die schöne Melusine"; next came the Charfreitagszauber music from "Parsifal"; then Saint-Saëns's Pianoforte Concerto in G minor, played by Fräulein Eisele, which ended Part 1. Part 2 was devoted to Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony; while Part 3 opened with the Prelude to "Lohengrin," and ended with Beethoven's March from "The Ruins of Athens," including some pianoforte pieces for Fräulein Eisele by Chopin and Rubin-The Tuesday Concerts are, as a rule, more severely classical, while in the Sunday performances, which last from six to ten o'clock, rather more license is allowed

Dr. Joachim and his colleagues, Herren De Ahna, Wirth, and Hausmann, resumed their famous Quartet evenings on the 14th ult., when Haydn in B flat (Op. 76, No. 4), Mozart in D, and Beethoven in E flat (Op. 127) were given.

Of the innumerable Lieder-Abende and Klavier-Abende, given in the course of the month by soloists talented or otherwise, must be singled out for special mention the two Pianoforte Recitals in the Singakademie of Mdlle. Sophie v. Posnansky, of St. Petersburg, an eighteen-year-old pupil of Anton Rubinstein. On her first appearance, on the 15th ult., Mdlle. Posnansky achieved a great and deserved success in Chopin's B minor Sonata (Op. 58), pieces by Bach and Scarlatti, and Beethoven's thirty-two Variations in C minor, her performance of the last-mentioned work being particularly fine. The artist met with equal success at her second Concert, when she played Schumann's "Davidsbündler," Bach's Chromatic Fantasia, and Beethoven's Sonata in A (Op. 101). There is little doubt that Mdlle. Posnansky's position in the future should be of the very highest. London audiences will before long have a chance of judging of her talent, as Herr Hermann Wolff is arranging for her appearance in town during the next spring season.

#### MUSIC IN DRESDEN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HERR TRENKLER recently performed Beethoven's C minor Symphony at his first Symphony Concert at the Dresden Gewerbehaus. His wise adoption of the old Allegro tempo, according to the composer's indication, has been variously criticised. The reviewer of the Anzeiger has cited his personal experience of Mendelssohn, Rietz, Gade, and Krebs as followers of the printed text, which sounds somewhat like breaking a fly upon the wheel. Herr Trenkler also adopted the pause for a whole bar which so many have wished to omit. The whole performance would have been well worth a visit, even at London prices; but when it is considered that 71d. is the entrance money, one is inclined to say they do these things better, as they certainly do them cheaper, in Germany. The Gewerbehaus orchestra consists of fifty performers—ten first violins, six second, and four violas. The strings are (contrary to one's ordinary experience of Saxon bands) the most praiseworthy portion of the whole, the brass is worthily represented, and the wood is the weakest; an admirable harp-player (this year of the masculine gender) completes an artistic ensemble Besides such numbers as Mendelssohn's "Meerestille" and the "Zauberflöte" Overture, novelties have been given with unusual profusion. The attention of English Concertdirectors may be drawn to "Rhine Pictures," a new Suite by Schumacher, which was finely given by Herr Trenkler's band, and is well spoken of by the critics, at all events, as far as the first three numbers (comprising an effective Serenade) are concerned. The last number, described as representing a feast of rustics, is common and unworthy of the earlier ones. No excerpts from "Ivanhoe" have yet been heard in Dresden, but Herr Trenkler's programmes have comprised two Sketches by one English composer, "Slovanka," a Bluette for orchestra, and a Scherzetto, both by Edward Cutler. The Dresden press, which is remarkably impartial as regards nationality, speaks of these two little pieces with favour.

The performance of "La Cavalleria" here has probably been one of the best which has yet been given. The influence of Herr Schuch over his orchestra is similar to that of the late Sir Michael Costa or Herr Richter. This is seen emphatically when two conductors succeed one another at the desk, as is often the case here. One fancies oneself in another theatre, so strikingly do new forces start into life when Schuch appears. He spent a considerable time studying the score with the composer in Naples, and therefore it must be assumed that his reading is correct, involving, as it does, the boldest liberties--the fusion of two bars into the time of one, the most sensational transition from one tempo to another, &c. Fräulein Malten alternates with Frau Wittich as the representative of the betrayed peasant girl. Neither lady presents a thoroughly complete illusion; the first-named especially, who is this year in splendid voice, was anything but the artless maiden contemplated by the librettist and indicated by the music; the men, however (Herr Anthes as the village roue and Herr Scheidemantel as the postillion), were perfect. Persons seeing the latter artist for the first time would hear with incredulity that he was identified with such heavy parts as the Duke in "Lucrezia Borgia" or the gloomy Holländer.

# MUSIC IN AMERICA.

New York, October 15, 1891.

The annual Musical Festival of Worcester, Mass., took place during the last week of September, and was, from an artistic as well as from a financial point of view, a great success. The scheme included four large and important choral works and a great number of orchestral works, some entirely new, and some new to the Festival audiences. In fact, it was generally acknowledged that this Festival was musically the most important ever given in Worcester, and the programme was a great credit to the committee which had composed it. Bruch's Cantata "Arminius" was the work performed at the first Concert. It seems to be a great favourite with Worcester audiences, as this was the third time of its appearance at these Festivals. The title part was assigned to a new-comer, Mr. Heinrich Meyn, a young German baritone, who has only recently settled in

this country. and rendered his part satisfactorily. The greatest enthusiasm of the evening was caused by the re-appearance of Signor Campanini in the tenor part of the Cantata. This was said to be the first time that this popular tenor had sung in the English language on the Concert platform, an accomplishment which he is supposed to have acquired during the past twelve months. Miss Lena Little also filled her part of the Priestess most satisfactorily, and the chorus and orchestra did well, under the conductorship of Mr. Zerrahn.

The second Concert was devoted to the performance of six compositions which, all but one, were new to Worcester. Schumann's D minor Symphony, two movements from Tschaikowsky's Fourth Symphony, Saint-Saëns's Violoncello Concerto (admirably played by Mr. Victor Herbert), and four movements from Grieg's popular "Peer Gynt" music were the principal numbers of the programme. Mrs. Julia L. Wyman and Mrs. S. C. Ford made their re-appear-

ance in some arias and songs.

The third Concert was one of the most interesting of the series, because it comprised the first performance in this country of Dr. J. F. Bridge's dramatic oratorio "The Repentance of Nineveh," and the first appearance, after a long absence, of Madame Nordica. Dr. Bridge's work was very much liked, and proved a genuine success. The solo parts were magnificently presented by Madame Nordica, Mrs. Carl Alves, Mr. Herbert Johnson, and Mr. Carl Duff; and though the chorus was in places rather weak and uncertain, the orchestra helped to make the performance of the work generally satisfactory. The evening began with a fine performance of Gluck's Overture to "Iphigenia," after which Mrs. Carl Alves sang Rubinstein's dramatic scena "Hagar in the desert." The fourth Concert was again made up almost entirely of novelties, the most interesting of which proved to be an Orchestral Suite by Mac-Dowell and a Dramatic Cantata by Victor Herbert called "The Captive." The latter work, though inadequately performed on account of insufficient rehearsals, proved to be a composition of great merit and originality, though the subject of the poem hardly warranted the highly dramatic conception which the composer had put upon it. A Mass, written by G. Arthur Adams, opened the Concert. The fifth Concert, generally alluded to by the audience as the "artists' night," and considered to be the special Concert of the Festival, served principally to re-intro-duce all the important artists engaged, and also to provide a place for the inevitable Wagner programme. The programme for this Concert was a long and varied one, made up of all kinds of popular arias and virtuoso pieces, but contained no novelties. The last Afternoon Concert was made interesting by the appearance of the celebrated pianist, Mr. Franz Rummel, who gave a splendid performance of Rubinstein's D minor Concerto. The rest of the programme was made up of Dvorák's D minor Symphony, and an Orchestral Rhapsody by Lalo. Handel's "Israel" was performed at the last Concert of the Festival, and gave a dignified ending to a series of interesting Concerts. The performance was spirited in every part, soloists, chorus, and orchestra vying with each other in the excellence of their work, the whole being a great testimonial to the skill and energy of Mr. Carl Zerrahn, who has been Conductor of these Festivals for twenty-five The Festival Society and members of the chorus and some others interested in the success of these Festivals had made up for this occasion a purse of \$1,500, which was presented to Mr. Zerrahn by the President of the Society as a well deserved tribute for his untiring efforts and indefatigable labours in the interests of this Society.

A NOTEWORTHY example of the interest and patronage now being bestowed upon music by the London civic authorities was afforded on the 17th ult., when the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, together with the Sheriffs, attended a Students' Concert at the Guildhall School of Music and presented a number of prizes to successful pupils in the Institution. It was further worthy of record that the majority of these gifts emanated either from well-known citizens or from civic bodies. In the performance which preceded the presentation some highly commendable

He has a sympathetic and sonorous voice, his part satisfactorily. The greatest enthu-evening was caused by the re-appearance impanini in the tenor part of the Cantata. In the tenor part of the Cantata. In the tenor part of the Cantata. In a violin solo by Wieniawski. Miss Kate Augusta but to be the first time that this popular Davies was an admirable accompanist. Mr. H. Weist Hill, the respected Principal of the School, seems to have fully recovered his health and was enthusiastically applauded on his appearance at the Conductor's desk

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AT a Court of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, held at the Guildhall on the 20th ult., Miss Ethel Sharpe, scholar of the Royal College of Music, was presented with the silver medal of the Company. In the evening the Master (Mr. W. M. Wilkinson), the Wardens (Mr. R. B. Warrick and Professor Bridge), and the Clerk (Mr. John T. Theobald) received a large company to dinner at the Albion, Aldersgate Street. During the evening Miss Sharpe per-formed Schumann's Novelette in E and Liszt's Concert Study in D flat, and was warmly applauded. Miss Sharpe, who is a native of Dublin, gained an open scholarship at the Royal College of Music for pianoforte playing at the age of sixteen, and has since studied under Mr. Franklin Taylor.

THE first of a course of Sunday afternoon Music Hours was given at St. Andrew's Church, Stockwell, on the 18th ult. The Organist was Mr. Herbert A. Keene (Organist of the Church); the violinist, Mr. Harry Smith; and the vocalists, Master Theodore Monro (soprano), Mr. Kear Colwell (tenor), Mr. Sturley Chutter (bass). The organ solos included "Harvest Festival March" (Hill), Andante in B flat (Hopkins), and Smart's Festive March in D. The violin solo was Beethoven's Romance in F, and the vocal solos were "If with all your hearts" and "Is not His word like a fire" ("Elijah"), and "With verdure clad" ("Creation"). The Music Hours will be continued until

A CROWDED audience was present at Mr. Percy Notcutt's Concert in St. James's Hall on the 26th ult. The entertainment, however, was of that composite order which demands little or nothing in the way of criticism. A large number of well-known artists took part in the programme, including Miss Macintyre, Miss Meredyth Elliott, and Messrs. McGuckin, Ben Davies, Oswald, Santley, and Clifford Harrison. Master Max Hambourg and Master Jean Gérardy also appeared, and both showed improvement on their respective instruments. A new and rather pretty song, "Love's Omnipresence," by Mr. Oliver Notcut: was introduced by Miss Macintyre, and met with a favourable reception.

On the 18th ult. Macfarren's Oratorio "St. John the Baptist" was given at St. John the Evangelist, Waterloo Baptist "was given at St. John the Evangelist, Waterloo Road, when the solos received effective treatment at the hands of Miss Florence Monk, Miss Mary Tunnicliffe, Mr. Joseph Gostick, and Mr. Frederick Winton, the choruses being contributed by the Oratorio Choir of the Church, under the histor of Mr. S. S. Martyn. Mr. Henry J. B. Dart presided at the organ, and Mr. W. Fraser at the principle of Organ Receivals with popular programs have pianoforte. Organ Recitals with popular programmes have been given at this Church on each Monday evening in September and October. They have attracted large audiences and will probably be made a permanent feature. The player has been Mr. Henry J. B. Dart.

THE members of the Musical Guild will give a series of four Concerts of chamber music (the sixth) in the Town Hall, Kensington, in November and December. The programmes of the series will include the following works: Rheinberger's Nonet istrings and wind), Mendelssohn's Octet (strings) in E flat (Op. 20), Brahms's String Quintet in F (Op. 88), Dvorák's Pianoforte Quintet in A major (Op. 81), Schubert's Quintet ("Trout") in A major (Op. 114). (Op. 31), Schubert's Quintet (\* Front \*) in A major (Op. 14), Beethoven's String Quartet (Op. 59) in C, Brahms's Pianoforte Quartet in C major (Op. 60), Beethoven's Pianoforte Trio in D major (Op. 70, No. 1), Schumann's Märchenbilder (pianoforte and viola), and others.

MR, FRANK PRIDMORE (by permission of Mr. D'Oyly Carte) gave a very successful Concert on Thursday, the 8th ult., at St. Ann's Hall, Thorburn Square, when he was assisted by Mesdames Phyllis Hope, Agnes Jackson, Annie Smith, Rose Moss; Messrs. Herbert Sims Reeves, Fred. Frampton, J. A. Smith, Wm. Dannell, and the Linden

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hall was well filled and the audience appeared to be thoroughly satisfied, greeting nearly every number with much applause.

In connection with the election of Alderman Evans to the Civic Chair, we learn that the Cardiff National Welsh Choir have been engaged to take part in the musical programme at the Guildhall on the 9th inst. The Lord Mayor Choi have been eigaged to take part in the indistal programme at the Guildhall on the 9th inst. The Lord Mayor Elect is a native of the principality, and, as a natural consequence, is interested in "these sweet singers of Wales." The ladies of the choir are attired in the picturesque costume of their native land.

A PIANOFORTE Recital—or, more strictly speaking, Concert—was given by Miss Emily Upton, at the Steinway Hall, on the 26th ult. The young executant displayed proficiency in various minor pieces by Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Schubert, but her programme did not include any works of magnitude. She was assisted by her pupil, Miss Lottie Timmins, in Chopin's Rondo for two pianofortes (Op. 73), and some songs were agreeably rendered by Miss Marion Godfrey.

AT a meeting of the Guild of St. John the Baptist, Waltham Abbey, held in the York Hill Schoolroom on the 13th ult., a paper was read on "Singers and Ringers," by Mr. Henry Riding. A small choir, consisting of ladies and gentlemen of the neighbourhood and boys from St. John's and St. Mary's churches, sang illustrations from Lloyd, Stainer, Mendelssohn, Barnby, &c., under the direction of the Lecturer. The Rev. C. Watson was in the chair.

THE Local Committee of Trinity College, London THE Local Committee of Trinity College, London (Newcastle Centre), has just been re-constituted, and consists of the following gentlemen:—Mr. G. W. Dahyns, South Shields (chairman); Dr. Rea, Mr. W. J. Ions, and Mr. John Nicholson, Newcastle; Mr. L. Winstone, Tynemouth; Mr. R. Seaton, Hexham; Mr. Petrie, Jarrow; and Mr. M. Fairs, South Shields, who has been appointed secretary in succession to Mr. C. F. Lloyd.

GAUL'S "Ruth" was sung at Holy Trinity Church, Upper Tooting, on Sunday afternoon, the 18th ult., with organ and instrumental accompaniment; the choir being organ and instrumental accompaniment; the choir being augmented by that of St. Paul's Church, Clapham. Messrs. Musgrove Tufnail, C. Dungate, and Masters Barnes and Pye sang the solos; Mr. Geo. Minson presiding at the organ. Mr. Alfred Physick (the Organist of the Church)

The West London Choral Association held its annual re-union on the 5th ult., in Exeter Hall. The programme included "By Babylon's Wave" (Gounod), "The spirit of song" (Cowley), and "Forward gaily" (McBurney). Short addresses were given by Mr. A. L. Cowley and Mr. G. J. Chapple. Mr. W. Holmes conducted.

Two Organ Recitals were given at the Congregational Church, Bethnal Green, by Mr. H. W. Dunkley, on September 27 and 28. The vocalist was Miss E. Hopkins, and the programme consisted of selections from Handel, Sullivan Wellie Brage Clerk and Park Sullivan, Wallis, Braga, Clark, and Parker.

THE annual banquet of the Church Choir Guild was held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Monday, the 5th ult, the Very Rev. F. Pigou, D.D. (President of the Guild), in the chair.

A PERFORMANCE of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was given at Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, on the 22nd ult., under the direction of Mr. James Bates (Choirmaster).

MISS MAY WORRELL, daughter of Madame Worrell, has been awarded a violin scholarship at the South London Institute of Music.

### REVIEWS.

A Collection of Songs and Madrigals. By English composers of the fifteenth century. [Bernard Quaritch.]

THERE is a growing interest in the labours of English musicians of all times, and the Council of the Plain-song and Mediæval Musical Society deserve the thanks of all who love to trace the progress of art by existing monuments. its appreciation is likely ultimately to prove.

Glee Club. Mr. Beaufort Mitchell gave a violin solo, and Miss Pridmore was the accompanist and solo pianist. The the musical compositions produced at the end of the the musical compositions produced at the end of the fifteenth century, as the first instalment of a series of like works, should command extensive patronage and support. There is an excellent and learned preface, describing the character of the songs inserted in the book, with clear descriptions of the notation, the modes, and other particulars concerning the method of composition prevalent in the far away days when the music was new and had, doubtless, a living influence. The original text, with its antiquated spelling, is given separately, the verses printed with the music have been modernised. How far this is an advantage music have been modernised. How far this is an advantage those may guess to whom the orthography of the fifteenth century is still somewhat puzzling. The music of the songs and madrigals is the work of various composers, some of whom are known to students of musical history. There are six songs—namely: "Kitt hath lost her key," "Alone I live," by Dr. Cooper; "To live alone," by John Cole; "In May, that lusty season," by Thomas Farthing, one of the most beautiful songs in the book; "The nightingale," another graceful ditty; "Though that she cannot redress, and "Ah, the sighs." All these have been provided with accompaniments for the pianoforte by Dr. C. W. Pearce, and he has done his best to reproduce, in a large measure. and he has done his best to reproduce, in a large measure. the harmonies and contrapuntal devices proper to the age in which the songs were written. Once or twice pro-gressions are employed which are modern, and in one case, in the song "Alone I live," he carries his feeling of mediavalism so far as to reproduce consecutive octaves between the valism so far as to reproduce consecutive octaves between the extreme parts in the second and third bars on the top of page 4. The effect is distinctly archaic. Besides the songs there are seven madrigals—namely: "Jolly rutterkin," by Wm. Cornish, junior; "Margaret meek, "by Browne; "This day day dawns," Anon; "The farther I go," by Wm. Newark; "I love, loved, and loved would be," by Robert Fairfax; "I love, I love, and whom love ve?" by Sir Thomas Phillips, and "Iflove now reigned "(instrumental), by King Henry VIII. Each of these pieces has been provided with a compressed score, useful for the purpose of study. by king Henry VIII. Each of these pieces has been provided with a compressed score, useful for the purpose of study, and there are supplemental pages showing the varieties of prolation and reproducing the style of the original notation. It is to be hoped, for the sake of art, that the series may be continued. The music shows the quaintness of thought of the period, with an element of beauty and fascination which per the without attraction and way indusers on the cannot be without attraction and even influence on the minds of those who will study it from the point of view it presents in itself.

> Le Wagnerisme hors d'Allemagne Evenepoel. [Paris: Librairie Fischbacher.] Par Edmond

M. EVENEPOEL is a Wagnerian disciple of the aggressive order, and by no means over-particular as to the severity of his utterances when coming into contact—as he frequently does in the three hundred pages constituting the above volume-with opinions not altogether in sympathy with the creed whereof he is an exponent. After making due allowance, however, for this peculiarity of our author, his series of essays on the progress of appreciation of the Bayreuth master outside Germany (i.e., more particularly in Belgium) will be found very agreeable reading indeed. M. Evenepoel, himself a Belgian, and, we believe, the musical critic of one of the leading journals of that country, is evidently a thorough musician, able to back up his opinions with a sufficient amount of authority, while his style is fluent and not without individuality. The latter, with the creed whereof he is an exponent. After making indeed, is brought into relief by the genuine enthusiasm which he brings to bear upon his subject-matter. The following enumeration of some of the heads of chapters will suffice to indicate the contents of the volume—viz.,
"Richard Wagner à Bruxelles," "Lohengrin," "Tannhäuser," "A Bayreuth," "L'Anneau du Nibelung," "Mort de Richard Wagner," "Les Maîtres Chanteurs de Nuremberg," "La Valkyrie," "En attendant 'Siegfried." Amongst the most interesting chapters may be pointed out that on "Die Meistersinger," one of Wagner's masterpieces which has met with a very considerable share of popular favour in Belgium and elsewhere outside Germany, thus furnishing another proof of the accuracy of the seeming paradox that the more truly and representatively national a work of art can claim to be, the more cosmopolitan

Missa, "O admirabile commercium." By G. P. da Palestrina. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

THE growing interest taken by the public in the works of Palestrina is a most healthy sign of our musical taste. A few years ago it would have been simply Quixotic to issue an edition even of the famous "Missa Papæ Marcelli" at a popular price, and now another has been added to the considerable number of the master's compositions published in Messrs. Novello's series. The newly edited Mass is for five-part chorus; its mode is the seventh, or Mixolydian, and its theme the canto fermo of the first Vesper Antiphon for the Feast of the Circumcision. It is presented by the editor, Mr. W. S. Rockstro, whose name is a guarantee for sound scholarship and reverential treatment, in a double transposition-i.e., a whole tone lower than the original Marks of expression, and directions as to the slight and gradual alterations of pace which are so essential to the true effect of the Mass when sung, have been added, and it is not necessary to say that their presence will greatly help those who are not versed in the performance of music of this splendid period to appreciate its beauties. According to the tradition of the best interpretations, certain sections have been allotted to solo voices. These are for the most part in the passages in which four parts only are employed, though in the "Christe eleison" and the "Qui tollis" five soloists are required-soprano, alto, two tenors, and bass. The "cantus" part is silent during the "Crucifixus," and the "bassus" during the "Benedictus." This latter section, therefore, has the same beautiful effect as is produced by the same means in the "Benedictus" of the "Missa Papæ Marcelli," an effect the beauty of which undoubtedly suggested the disposition of the choral parts in the first act of Professor Stanford's "Eden." The Mass is carefully and clearly printed; the single misprint that we have observed is not unlikely to mislead, if it be not corrected. In the last bar of page 53 the voice parts are evidently right, and the reiterated note B, in the tenor part of the accompaniment, should be B, C, B. The accompaniment, it should be added, is intended for practice only; even for that purpose it should be used as little as possible, while for performance it is of course out of the question.

Mozart Centenary Selection. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

On December 5 will be celebrated -- or more properly speaking, solemnly observed -- the centenary of the untimely death of Mozart, and we hear of performances being organised in various parts of Europe and America having for their object a tribute of respect to the memory of a composer whom Richard Wagner described as the most perfect musician ever born into the world. On the Continent these centenary performances will be largely if not principally held in opera houses, but with us the concert-room will be more extensively utilised, and the publication of the above-named volume is, therefore, well timed, as its contents offer musical societies, in a cheap and handy form, the material for a complete programme of moderate length. The first part consists, as a matter of course, of the immortal "Requiem." A Mozart Centenary Concert without the composer's swan-song would be incomplete indeed. For the selection of a miscellaneous second part there was of course an embarras de richesses; but musicians generally will agree that the pieces chosen are, without exception, worthy of their place in the scheme. They commence with the chorus "Calm is the glassy ocean," from "Idomeneo." This is followed by "Qui sdegno," from "Die Zauberflöte"; "Deh vieni," from "Le Nozze di Figaro"; the "Ave verum," "Il mio tesoro" and "La ci darem," from "Don Giovanni"; and the Motet from the "King Thamos" music, best known as "Splendente Te, Deus," but here given with the English words. This admirable volume is certain to be in wide demand.

The Two Advents. A Church Cantata. Words selected and written by the Rev. E. W. Bowling. Composed by George Garrett. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

ADVENT will soon be with us once more, and new music suitable for that season will of course be in demand. The publication of the present work is therefore timely. The Cantata was composed for the twenty-eighth Festival of St. James's Choir, New York. It is in two brief parts, each of the music is appropriately bright and festal, but simplicity

complete in itself, but together occupying no more than forty minutes in performance. The text consists of passages from Scripture interspersed with hymns, but Mr. Bowling calls attention to the fact that the latter are not essential and suggests that other Advent hymns may be substituted at discretion. Dr. Garrett's music is noteworthy for church-like dignity, mingled with modern feeling and expression. The latter manifests itself in harmony with the words, as, for example, in the melodic and harmonic progressions at the words "Thou camest down to live on earth and die." Many other passages equally appropriate and felicitous in effect might be quoted, but it will be sufficient to recommend the Cantata to the notice of choirmasters, from whom it is certain to meet with favour.

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Twelve Songs (Loving hearts). By Karel Bendl. Novello, Ewer and Co.]

THE gipsy songs of this admirable writer have already called attention to one phase of his genius. These twelve songs just issued will serve to display further his powers of invention in a direction more consistent with his own artistic sensibilities. In the "Zigeuner Lieder" or gipsy songs, he was more or less bound down by the demands of the style in which he then chose to express his thoughts. In these twelve songs we are brought face to face, as it were, with the individual aspirations of the musician. A freshness of idea and a distinctly novel mode of expression are the marked characteristics of each of the twelve songs in the present collection. The words, selected from the writings of various authors, have all one theme, indicated by the sub-title, and the variety of ideas the poems have called forth will not fail to delight those who look for originality and vigour of purpose in the labours of modern musicians.

St. Barnabas. A Sacred Cantata or Church Oratorio, The words selected from the Scriptures by the Rev. J. The music composed by Philip Armes. Powell Metcalfe. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

This work was first performed at the Festival of North-Eastern Choirs in Durham Cathedral, on July 30 last. The words are intended to suggest the Christian graces illustrated by the life of St. Barnabas. Structually it is divided into a Prologue and six sections, the latter being headed respectively Communion, Example, Charity, Work, Faith, and Praise, the narrative portions of the text being, of course, taken from the Acts of the Apostles. Those acquainted with the previous compositions of Dr. Armes will readily credit the statement that the music of this Cantata is characterised by ease and elegance of style, together with a plentiful infusion of expressive melody. The choruses are not unduly elaborate, and are therefore within the means of any parish choirs which may feel inclined to take the work in hand for the next festival of the saint whose name it bears.

The Morning, Evening, and Communion Services, set to music in G. By Philip Armes. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

THE esteemed organist of Durham Cathedral has here provided a Service which cannot fail to be received with much favour. The settings of the morning and evening Canticles have already been favourably noticed, and we have now, therefore, only to speak of the setting of the Communion Office. Dr. Armes writes throughout in a broad, dignified, and church-like manner, limiting himself to the resources which were deemed sufficient by the best English writers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and making little or no use of sumptuous modern harmonies or elaborate independent accompaniments. It should be mentioned that the setting of the Credo gained one of three prizes offered by the Musical World in 1889, sixtyeight competitors entering the lists.

Te Deum and Benedictus in C. By Haydn Keeton, Mus. Doc. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

THIS setting of the morning Canticles was composed for

has been studied throughout, the voice parts being choral from beginning to end, while the accompaniment, though it frequently becomes independent, is never elaborate. Save for an occasional faulty accent, as at the commence.

The author of the words has not been altogether so nan forty passages Bowling ssential bstituted ment of the Benedictus, the music is well fitted to the rthy for words, though it is for the most part continuous, formal and excloses and double bars being few and far between. with the nic pro-

Concertstück for Organ and Orchestra. By Frank J. Sawyer. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

DR. SAWYER is not only an ambitious but a very able composer, and this elaborate Concert piece shows his ability in a striking light. It opens with an extended Lento in D minor, having the character of an improvisation, and leading to a quicker movement in the major key. This is worked out at great length, and in construction the ordinary laws of form are not strictly observed. But the music does not thereby lack shapeliness and symmetry, and the details show many masterly touches and ample knowledge of effect. In the copy before us the orchestral parts are compressed into short score so that they could be rendered on the pianoforte if necessary.

The Canterbury Voluntaries. For harmonium or American organ. Books 1 and 2. [Phillips and Page.]

THESE are short pieces composed and arranged by a musician whose elegant and facile pen has largely increased musician whose elegant and facile pen has largely increased the repertory of pleasant music for the reed organ. In the present instance Mr. Elliott has displayed a somewhat superfluous degree of modesty, as only eight out of thirtyone selections are signed by himself. The rest consists of arrangements from Handel, Mendelssohn, Spohr, Schumber and other first bless someware acceptance of the first bless so mann, Mozart, and other first-class composers, carefully transcribed and of convenient length to serve as voluntaries. Marks of expression are supplied, but the registering of the stops is left to the taste of the performer.

Original Compositions for the Organ, No. 141. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

This number contains a "Fantasia Sonata on the ancient melody for 'Dies Irae,'" by B. Luard Selby. It is a somewhat elaborate composition in three movements, worthy of the attention of organists during the coming season of Advent. In the first section the ominous theme, of which Liszt has made such extraordinary use in a series of variations for pianoforte and orchestra, is given out in octaves and answered in full harmony. The next movement, an Allegretto in B flat, is entitled "Lachrymosa," and is generally of a softer and more melodious character. In the Finale a severer style returns, but with more clabora-tion than in the first movement. The close is extremely solemn and pathetic.

Technical Study in the Art of Pianoforte Playing. By C. A. Ehrenfechter. [William Reeves.]

This is a curiously written work advocating Deppe's principles of technical study. Many of the hints given cannot fail to be of great value to those who desire, as far as it is possible without the watchful aid of a master, to perfect themselves in the art of pianoforte playing upon an advanced scientific plan. At the same time, it could have been wished that the author had adopted a more dignified style of diction when dealing with a subject intended to be instructive, and not have imported illustrations which may amuse because of their humour, but can scarcely be counted as of any value from an educational point of view.

Suite de Pièces in E minor. For Violin and Pianoforte. By Clara Angela Macirone. [Forsyth Brothers.]

AMATEURS and professional players should not neglect the opportunity of making acquaintance with this graceful and effective composition. The Suite commences with an Allegro risoluto in E minor, having a fine bold subject admirably treated, and in that form which commended itself to the classic writers of the past. This is followed by a charming and graceful Romance, opening in the same key and ending in the tonic major, while a lively and spirited Tarantelle in E minor and major brings the work to an effective end. The parts for the violin and for the pianoforte are each ably written and the hand of the musician is discernible in every bar.

The words

The author of the words has not been altogether so successful in reproducing the spirit of the poetry usually found in connection with the old madrigals as the composer has been in imitating the style of the music. The latter's six-part writing is ingenious and well maintained from first to last, though at times he extends the compass of his voices in the extreme parts beyond those bounds where voices are effective. On the whole, however, his work is praiseworthy and musicianlike, and fully deserved the prize awarded with the medal for 1890 by the Madrigal Society.

Trust in the Lord. Anthem. By Joseph Whitaker. [Novello, Ewer and Co.]

In this Anthem the composer has for the most part adhered to the traditional style of English service music. The writing is throughout smooth and devoid of sensational devices, though there are some effective points, perhaps the best being the striking transition at the words "For whoso findeth Me, findeth life." No solo voices are directly indicated, but apparently the opening section may be sung either as a quartet or a chorus.

Exercises in Harmony and Composition. By Frederick Corder. [Forsyth Brothers.]

THE author states in his preface that the exercises given The author states in his preface that the exercises given are intended to supply a want which he has felt during his practice as a teacher. The examples he gives are drawn from all sources—English and foreign—and present a variety which is admirably calculated to impart an extent of knowledge necessary for those who would pursue the subject properly. The book is worthy of a wide circulation.

Sevenfold Amen. By J. W. Elliott.
[Novello, Ewer and Co.]

Berlioz cordially disliked "a good, learned Amen," as he terms it in his "Faust"; but his feeling is not shared by English churchmen, and the present example, which for the sake of convenience is printed on a card, is certain to be received with favour, though it may not gain so much popularity as the masterly example of Sir John Stainer. It is written for treble, alto, tenor, and two basses.

Deux Études pour piano, et Exercises préparatoires pour piano. Par J. Philipp.

Paris: Durdilly et Cie, et J. Hamelle.]

THE attention of teachers and students may be directed to these excellent works. They are well designed, and fully calculated to help the progress of those who desire to achieve good and solid work. The two studies are ingeniously compounded of passages from Weber and Chopin, and the preparatory exercises are clever, original, and interesting.

#### FOREIGN NOTES.

THE Liszt-Verein of Leipzig proposes to give a series of five Orchestral Concerts at the Albert Hall of that town during the present season, to be conducted alternately by Herren Mottl, of Carlsruhe; Strauss, of Weimar, and Weingartner, of Berlin. Thus with the famous Gewandhaus Concerts, and the annual Academical Concerts, under the direction of Dr. Kretzschmar, there will be no lack of orchestral performances at Leipzig during the coming

Some new works from the pen of Johannes Brahms, composed during the master's recent sojourn at Ischl, are shortly to be published. They are a clarinet trio, a new series of "Gipsy Songs" for four voices, and a number of Lieder.

Eight hitherto unpublished songs by Carl Loewe are about to be issued by Messrs. Breitkopf and Härtel, of Leipzig, with a biographical preface from the pen of the composer's daughter. Frau Julie von Bothwell. The songs composer's daughter, Frau Julie von Bothwell. were written some years previous to the publication (in 1818) of the famous ballads "Der Erlkönig" and "Edward,"

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and amongst their number is one entitled "Sehnsucht," which has been characterised as a "veritable pearl" by Carl Maria von Weber, who predicted a great artistic future

for its composer.

Anton Rubinstein is again credited with having nearly completed a new opera entitled "The Gipsies," the libretto founded upon a romance by Puschkin, while a literary work by the same author on Bach, Beethoven, Handel, and Wagner is said to be under the press.

A very interesting article, containing personal reminiscences of Meyerbeer, appears in a recent number of the Neue Freie Presse of Vienna, from the pen of Ludwig

August Frankl.

That indefatigable and most successful collector of antique musical instruments, Herr Paul de Witt, of Leipzig, who has already sold two valuable collections to the Berlin Museum, has succeeded in gathering together a fresh collection of two hundred similar instruments, all of them in excellent preservation and fit for use. This is to form part of the forthcoming Vienna Exhibition of musical and dramatic art, on which occasion Herr de Witt proposes to give recitals on some of the instruments, himself playing the Viola da Gamba.

The Vienna Philharmonic Society's Concerts will be resumed on the 8th inst., with a performance of Handel's

" Alexander's Feast."

Messrs. Breitkopf and Härtel, of Leipzig, announce the impending publication, for the first time, of Robert Schumann's Symphony in B flat major in its original version, which sufficiently differs from its later elaboration as to render it an altogether independent work. The manuscript is in the possession of Johannes Brahms, and the work was produced under Dr. Wüllner's direction at one of the Gürzenich Concerts at Cologne, in 1889, when it elicited much general interest. Another interesting first publication announced by the above firm is a Valse by Louis Spohr, composed in 1809, but presumably never committed to paper until, many years afterwards, Moritz Hauptmann, who had taken a great fancy to it, noted it down from

The new Municipal Theatre at Zurich was opened on September 30 with the performance of a "Festspiel" written by Herr Carl Spitteler, with incidental music by Capellmeister Rempter. The performance of the play was preceded by Beethoven's Overture "Zur Weihe des Hauses," and a Prologue recited by Herr C. F. Meyer, Wagner's "Lohengrin" was given on the following day, with Herr Lederer in the titular part and Fräulein Prosky

in the rôle of Elsa

Herr Joseph Hellmesberger, the eminent Viennese violinist, celebrated last month the fortieth anniversary of his appointment to the directorship of the Vienna Conservatorium. The veteran artist is sixty-two years of age.

German papers announce the publication of an Overture written by Cherubini for the London Philharmonic Society, and performed here in 1815. The interesting manuscript was recently discovered by Herr Friedrich Grützmacher, of Dresden, and is published by C. F. Kahnt Nachfolger, Leipzig.

Dr. Philipp Spitta, the excellent Bach biographer, has been created a Privy Councillor by the German Emperor.

M. Rebiczek, hitherto the orchestral director of the Imperial Opera at Warsaw, has accepted the conductorship of the Hungarian Opera at Budapest, in succession to Herr Mahler. "Tannhäuser" is to be the first work to be produced under the new Conductor, and in the Hungarian

language.

The Meyerbeer Centenary performances at the Munich Hof-Theater comprised the following works of that master—viz., "Jephta's Gelübde" (first performed 1812), "Teolinde," a mono-drama (1817), "Il Crociato in Egitto" (1826), "Robert le Diable" (1834), "Les Huguenots" (1838), "Le Prophète" (1850), "L'Etoile du Nord" (1856), "Dinorah" (1860), "L'Africaine" (1867), and Michael Beer's drama "Struensee," with his brother's incidental music (1849). All the above works were performed in the German language.

An amateur Orchestral Society has just constituted itself at Leipzig, under the direction of the composer, Herr

Ferdinand Thieriot.

Another centenary, that of the birth of the once celebrated

composer, Peter Josef von Lindpaintner, is to be celebrated at Stuttgart next month with a performance of a "Fest-Ouverture," the ballet "Das Schweizerhaus," and an act from the Opera "Lichtenstein." Lindpaintner was born at Coblentz on December 8, 1791, and from 1819 to his death, in 1856, he was the principal Conductor of the Stuttgart Hof-Theater.

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The first prize of the Berlin Mendelssohn Fund has been awarded this year to a young lady, Fräulein Felicia Kirchdorffer, a pupil of the Hoch'sche Conservatorium at

Frankfurt.

Herr Felix Mottl, the well-known Carlsruhe Capell-meister, has been decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honour, in acknowledgment of his services in connection with the "Lohengrin" performance at the Paris Opéra.

Conrad Behrens, the well-known bass singer, is still pursuing successfully his operatic career, and appeared last month at the Dresden Hof-Theater in "Die Zauberflöte" and Wagner's "Der fliegende Holländer"; he was well received.

The newly-formed Heckmann Quartet at Bremen gave its first Concert at that town on the 8th ult., with a Beethoven programme, and met with a most enthusiastic reception. The quartet party consists of Herren Heckmann, Wittenburg, Pfitzner, and Smith.

mann, Wittenburg, Phtzner, and Smuu.

Herr August Ludwig, of Berlin, makes an announcement, by circular, that he has "completed" Franz Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony by adding a Scherzo and final movement of his own composition. The work, in this form,

is published by Carl Paez, of Berlin.

The statue of Wilhelm Müller, the poet of the "Müller Lieder" and others, set to music by Schubert, was unveiled at his native town of Dessau, on September 30, in the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Anhalt, the poet's son, Professor Max Müller, of Oxford, and others interested in the ceremony.

Under the title of "Krawalleriana Musicana" a parody of Signor Mascagni's successful opera is just now being immensely applauded at the Theater an der Wien, the musical part of the travesty, from the pen of Herr Mader, more especially being described as very clever.

The well-known baritone of the Dresden Opera, Herr Scheidemantel, has been engaged to sing the part of Wolfram at the forthcoming first performance of Wagner's "Tannhäuser" at La Scala, of Milan.

A new opera, "Vindice," by a hitherto almost unknown composer, Signor Masetti, has just been brought out with enormous success at the Brunetti Theatre of Bologna. The Bolognese papers are enthusiastic in their praise of the young Maëstro, whom they regard as the rival of Mascagni.

The Pergola Theatre, of Florence, was opened on the and ult., under the new management of Signor Sonzogno, with a performance of Ambroise Thomas's "Hamlet."

Some fanciful performances of Auber's "Fra Diavolo" have recently taken place at the Manzoni Theatre, of Rome, the performers being children, all of them under fourteen years of age. Rossini's "Il Barbiere" was likewise to have been performed by the same juvenile executants.

The Concerts of the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Society, formerly under the direction of Anton Rubinstein, will be conducted this season by Herr Leopold Auer, the eminent

violin virtuoso,

The Grand Theatre at Warsaw, lately renovated at a cost of 700,000 roubles, has just been opened by a gala performance, including, amongst other operatic fragments,

a portion of Boito's "Mefistofele."

Signor Mascagni's new opera on the subject of "L'Ami Fritz "was announced to be brought out on the 31st ult, at the Teatro Costanzi, of Rome. The new score of the composer of "Cavalleria Rusticana" has also been delivered to the authorities of the Berlin Opera, where the work is shortly to be produced, with a German version of the libretto by Herr Max Kalbech. The music is said to be full of *finesse* and most carefully elaborated. There are only two scenes required in the work, and seven solo performers, four of whom only have important parts.

The Directorship of the Conservatorium at Parma, held successively by Bottesini and Franco Faccio, has now been definitely awarded to Signor Guiseppe Gallignani, choir-

master of the Cathedral in Milan.

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Gluck's "Armida," in the French language, is in course of preparation at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, of Brussels. A Congress on Church Music will be assembled from the

10th to the 12th inst. at Milan, under the presidency of Signor Gallignano, the musical director of the Cathedral.
A new four-act opera, "Alienor," by the celebrated violin

virtuoso and Professor at the Royal Academy of Music at Budapest, Yenö Hubay, is to be first produced at the Royal Opera of Budapest, on the 19th inst. Madame Bianchi is to create the principal part, and the performance is looked forward to with considerable interest in musical circles in the Hungarian capital.

It is stated that the Paris "Lohengrin" performance is to be followed by that of "Tristan und Isolde" at the Grand Opéra, and of "Die Meistersinger" at the Opéra

Comique.

A committee has been formed in the Campagna to arrange a fitting celebration of the tercentenary, in 1894, of the death of the illustrious composer named after that place.

M. Paul Frémaux, for some years first violoncellist at the Paris Grand Opéra, has been appointed to the Conductorship of the Concerts of the Association Artistique, at Angers, in the room of M. Gustave Lelong.

The French Government has granted a subvention of 15,000 francs towards the representation of the country at the forthcoming Vienna Musical and Dramatic Art Exhibi-

The first ten performances of "Lohengrin" at the Paris Grand Opéra have realised the sum of 207,000 francs, in round figures, being an average of 20,700 francs for each representation.

M. Massenet is said to be engaged upon a new comic opera, the libretto founded upon Molière's "Amphitrion,"

opera, the Infecto founded upon Molece's "Amphitrion," from the pen of M. Léonce Détroyat.

Madame Augusta Holmes has completed the score of an opera, entitled "Montagne Noire," to which the lady has also written the libretto. It is probable that the work will be brought out at the Grand Opéra.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### A MISSING LUTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—Some time ago I troubled you with a letter and a nery. The letter referred to a very beautiful mother-ofpearl lute purchased in London by Lord Berkeley for his Countess, and very much, though vainly, desired by Queen Elizabeth. The instrument, some time after Lady Berkeley's death, was presented to the Dowager Countess of Derby, and, inasmuch as Queen Elizabeth offered the then large sum of 100 marks for it, I queried whether the precious article was still in existence and, if so, by whom held. No answer came and the matter passed from my mind till, in looking over Fosbroke's "Extracts from Smyth's Lives of the Berkeley Family," I came upon the following note:— "About the year 1810, this lute was in the possession of the late Mrs. Jordan, the actress, who had bought it at a sale." I have consulted several biographies of Mrs. Jordan I have consulted several biographies of Mrs. Jordan without meeting with any reference to the instrument, but there can hardly be a doubt that it was disposed of at the sale of the lady's goods following her melancholy death in France. I now trouble you with a second letter because in France. I now trouble you with a second letter because it is just possible that some one among your readers may possess a catalogue of Mrs Jordan's sale with mens. of price and purchaser.—Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH BENNETT.

London, October 26.

FIRST PERFORMANCES .- "ELIJAH."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,-In your October number, in the account of the first performance of "Elijah," referring to the recitative composed by Mendelssolm for Handel's Anthem, it says that the audience were quite unaware of what had been done, and no doubt thought that they were listening to the music of Handel. At that time I was one of the chorus, and remember, as though it were yesterday, Mr. Munden coming to the front and saying that as the new music coming to the front and saying that as the new music could not be tried over first, it would be done at sight. There is another thing not generally known: the choruses of "Elijah" were first sung in Stephenson Place, New Street, behind the Attwood statue, in an old chapel there. I don't wish to pull Mr. Attwood down from his pedestal, but I have always thought that Mendelssohn had the greatest right to be there. - I am, yours truly,

Birmingham, October 6, 1891.

P.S .- I forgot to state that Handel's anthem was "The King shall rejoice," the first and last movements only: not "Zadok, the Priest." I have programme to show this.

G. T. S

f"The King shall rejoice" was performed at the Wednesday morning Concert, after "Elijah." "Zadok, the Priest" (last chorus), was given on Friday morning, as stated in the article. Moscheles (the Conductor of the Festival), and the musical critic of the Birmingham Journal, both writing at the time of the event, said that the audience had no knowledge of the circumstance of Mendelssohn's recitative. - Ep. M. T.]

#### HANDEL'S OPERAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR, -Being interested in matters musical, I not long since read a small biography of Handel, and was struck with the number of operas—about fifty, I believe—which proceeded from his prolific pen. Would you be so kind as to inform me why these works are never brought before the public? It cannot be because "when ideas failed him he used those of others without the slightest compunction," as says the "Encyclopædia Britannica," for this remark would apply with equal force to the oratorios which are produced triennially at the Crystal Palace—the Handel Festivals.

Nor can the neglect of this part of Handel's music (if it be such) be owing to the fact that such works as "Nero," "Almira," "Florinda," &c., are inferior to the operation chef-d'aneres of Mozart; for pieces of less merit still are eagerly listened to by lovers of music.

Perhaps there is a good reason why we do not hear any of the said pieces, and this reason I wish to find out.

Yours truly,
W. Dixson.

[Handel's operas are constructed almost entirely with solo numbers only; concerted movements are rare, and usually only introduced in the *Finale* of the work. The absence of chorus is in striking contrast with his oratorio work, and would sufficiently account for the inadvisability of attempting a revival in these days.—ED. M. T.]

#### QUOTATIONS IN MUSIC.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES,"

SIR, -Owing to the frequent occurrence of quotations from other works in modern music, would it not be of great advantage to institute some musical formulæ corresponding to the inverted commas which indicate quotations in literature? If you think this suggestion worth ventilating, kindly insert this in your columns.—Faithfully yours,

JOHN MORE SMIETON.

12, Victoria Chambers, Dundee, September 29, 1891.

#### MUSICAL EXAMINATION IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—The following question was put by the Government examiner to three classes of boys aged seven to twelve, and, as they failed, the grant was reduced to 6d.:—Reading at sight. A melody was written on the black board in the key of D, changing to G. C was sounded on

the fork, four beats given; the boys ordered to start (without any time to find key-note). They of course began

the melody in C

The fork was again sounded, and they were asked to sing the Minor Chord. No explanation was given or allowed. Silence was the result. I presume the minor scale was intended. I have been singing in choirs and choral societies for forty years, the last twenty acting as choir-trainer (con amore); I challenge all the choristers in our Cathedral choirs to pass this examination expected of country school boys on the same line—that is, without preparation or explanation.—Yours faithfully,

ALFRED CLEYBELL,

Member of Committee, Havant National Schools.

[This complaint should be addressed to the Education Department, whose musical advisers would be called upon to investigate the charge. If what is stated is the whole truth regarding the examination, and the school has been plucked because of the failure described, we have no hesitation in saying that such treatment is not justifiable. But without strict investigation we are loth to credit any of H.M. Inspectors with unfairness. We have reason to know that the work of musical inspection is generally carried out with scrupulous fairness, and even leniency, although the examiners are amateurs in music.— Ed. M. T.1

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- \*\* Notices of concerts, and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance.
- Our correspondents will oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes that may occur.
- Correspondents are informed that their names and addresses must accompany all communications.
- We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.
- Notice is sent to all subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers that, although the music is always kept in stock, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.
- Diminished Seventh. You cannot do better than purchase Dr. F. J. Sawyer's Primer on Extemporisation, published by Novello, Ewer and Co., price 28.
- J. W. H.—We believe Handel's "Droop not, young lover," is not taken from any opera. The English words published are NOT a translation of the original Italian.
- Perplexed.—Individual work and training are necessary for voicedevelopment and for sight reading. You might, however, purchase Mann's "Manual of Singing," is; Marches's "Exercises for the Development of the Voice," 5s.; Florence Marshall's "Solfeggi for Class Singing," 4s. Sitche's "Instruction for Choral Societies," 6d.; all published by Novello, Ewer and Co.

TEACHER .- We cannot give any opinion on the subject of your enquiry.

### BRIEF SUMMARY OF COUNTRY NEWS.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this summary, as all the notices are either collated from the local papers or supplied to us by correspondents.

ALNWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND,—On Thursday evening, the 1st ult., a successful evening Concert (to raise funds to extinguish the debt on the Wesleyan Church organ) was given in the Corn Exchange by a choir and orchestra of fifty-five performers, under the direction of Mr. A. Moir. The soloists were Misses Blair, Short, Fittis, J. H. Short, and Messrs. A. Moir, G. Bolam, and D. Aitken. Miss Fittis acted as accompanie.

ASHFORD.—An evening Concert was given here on the 1st ult. by the United Choral and Orchestral Societies, numbering 200 executants, when Barnett's Ancient Mariner was performed. The solos were taken by Miss S. Pierce, Miss F. Hoskins, Mr. Harper Kearton, and Mr. Dewhurst. The choruses went splendidly, and the band played the accompaniments well, especially in the solos. The second part consisted of songs (all of which were enthusiastically encored) by the above-mentioned vocalists. This, the first appearance of the Choral Society, which was formed in February last, augurs well for its future. Dr. Wilks was the Conductor.

Belgrave.—A Concert took place here on the 19th ult. The following ladies and gentlemen appeared. Miss Olga Battaglia, Mrs. F. G. Pierpoint, Messrs. A. Page, J. McRobie, J. S. Waterstone, R. C. Allen, W. E. Bailey, A. P. Handford, and Dewson. The Concert was largely attended.

Burton-on-Trent. — The Sunday School Union gave two very successful Concerts on the 13th and 13th ult. The evenings programmes consisted of the Cantax Ruth, by Gaul, the principals for which were Miss Beatrice Gough, Miss Frances Turner, and Mr. J. H. England, the members of the Union sustaining the choruses. Mr. A.B. Plant was at the organ, and Mr. Frost was the Conductor.

Burn St. Edmunds.—The Harvest Festival Services were held in St. Mary's Church on September 27. The Services were of a particularly bright and festive character. At the Evening Service the Canticles were sung to Langran's Service in E flat. The Anthem, "Ye shall dwell in the land" (Stainer), being well sung. Preceding the Benediction Handel's duet, "O lovely peace," and chorus, "Sing unto God" (Judas Maccabaus), were verificatively sung. As a concluding Voluntary a selection from Haydn's Creation was finely played by the Organist, Mr. T. B. Richardson.

CAPETOWN.—Handel's Messiah was selected for the Oratorio Service, on August 26, in St. George's Cathedral. The performance throughout was a distinct success, chorus and orchestra being at their best and deserving tonqualified praise. The principal solo parts were entrusted to Miss Rutherfoord, Miss Money, Mr. Lane, Mr. Gent, and Mr. Norman, and the choruses produced their wonted effect. Mr. Barrow Dowling presided at the organ. The popularity of the Oratorio Services in the Cathedral is evidenced by the fact that, although admission was only granted on presentation of a programme which cost a shilling, there was not a vacant seat in the building. This is the seventh Oratorio Service given by the St. George's choir within the last two years.

CHELTENHAM.—The opening Conversazione of the season took place at Handel Hall on the 12th ult., when a Lecture was delivered by Dr. E. H. Turpin on the composers of The Red Cross Knight (Frout, Athalic, Loreley (Mendelssohn), and The Redemption (Gounod, and at which the medals and prizes for the competitions, of which Sir John Stainer is the adjudicator, were distributed. The lecture was interspersed by selections from the works dealt with. These illustrations were presented by Miss L. Franklin Higgs, Mr. F. Champ, Miss Susan Harrhy, Mr. A. Lovell, and Miss Tarrant, and by a competent chorus.

CHESTREBELD.—The Harmonic Society gave its first performance of the season on the 13th ult, when Hiller's Song of Victory was performed. The soloist was Miss Maggie Davies, whose singing elicited warm approval from the audience. The singing of the chorus showed some very careful preparatory work, and they are to be congratulated upon their success. The excellence of the performance certainly deserved a larger audience. Mr. William Mountney was the leader of the band, and Mr. G. A. Seed was the Conductor. The second part of the programme was a miscelleneous selection, in which Miss Davies and Mr. T. L. Selby took part.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—At the Parish Church, on the 4th ult, the first of a series of short Sunday Organ Recitals was given by Mr. Loraine Holloway, when pieces by Lemmens, Bach, Gounod, Handel, Smart, and Capocci were given.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX.—The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, September 27, when the Services were fully choral. The Anthem was Tours's "Rejoice in the Lord," and a Recital was given after the Evening Service by Mr George Slade, who also sang a couple of solos. The numbers were selected from Hancock, Bach, Rheinberger, Lee, Mailly, Mendelssohn, and

Hove.—The fifth season of the Brighton Musical Union was inaugurated by a Chamber Concert in the Town Hall on the 14th Ut. An interesting programme was carried out by Mr. H. Crapps and Mr. W. Tibbalds (violins), Mr. W. A. Baker (viola), and Miss Winham, Mrs. E. T. Langford Rawley, and Mr. C. E. Gravely (pianoforte). The performance of each piece was prefaced by instructive and interesting remarks by Mr. J. Crapps, the founder of the Union.

remarks by Mr. J. Crapps, the founder of the Union.

KIDDERMINSTER.—A Musical Festival was held at the Parish Church on the 14th ult., the proceeds of which were devoted to a fund for the repair of the organ. The works performed were Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praiss and Hear my Prayer, S. S. Wesley's Anthem "The Wilderness," and a setting of the Hymn, "Abide with me," by Mr. Torrington of Toronto; concluding with the "War March of the Priests" (Athalie). The principal vocalists were Mrs. Glover-Eaton. Mr. Cotton, Mr. Charles Blagbro', Mr. Alfred Cotton. The choir of the church, augmented by a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen, formed the chorus, while a string and wind orchestra, with pianefert and organ, were responsible for the Symphony, March, and the accompaniments. Miss Edith Smith was at the pianoforte; Mr. W. Taylor, Organist; and the Conductor was Mr. H. T. Everist.

LEICESTER.—It is quite possible that a very busy musical season isin store. Our entrepreneurs and Societies are engaged in perfecting final arrangements for the forthcoming winter. Our next issue will contain a list of the Musical Society's programme for the season.—Mr. J. Herbert Marshall, our leading entrepreneur, is again to the front with a very acceptable and highly interesting prospectus of his four grand Subscription Concerts. Mr. Marshall, in submitting his arrangements for the season, has exercised the greatest care in his selection of artists, embodying his programmes so that they will prove as attractive and as instructive as possible to those interested and engaged in musical culture. The list of artists fully justifies Mr. Marshall is hoping that hearty support will be accorded him, so that his venture promises to be an artistic as well as a financial success. Mr. Marshall's first Concert took place at the Temperance Hall on the 15th ult, with every evidence of success, musically as well as financially. The artists appearing were Madame Valleria, Miss Dews, Mr. Braxton Smith, Signor Foli, Señor Albeniz, Señor Arbos, and Herr David Popper; Musical Director and Conductor, Mr. F. F. Watkis; accompanist, Madame Hast. The other Concerts will be: November 12, Miscellaneous; December 10, Mendelssohn's St. Paul; February 25, 1892, Recital of Gound's Opera Faust — The Amateur Musical and Dramatic Club held its General Meeting on the 5th ult. The next Opera, La

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ments rtists, active ed in all in with mith, iscel-, Re-natic Fille de Madame Angot, will be produced at the Royal Opera House, for one week, in March next. In response to public request, The Pintes of Penzance will again be produced on December 21 and 22.—The Orchestral Union will give a Mozart Commemorative Concert on the 5th inst. The programme will contain the Overtures Zauberflote and Don Giotanni, the Symphony in D. Pinnoforte Concert on D minor, and several vocal pieces. Mr. H. B. Ellis will conduct.

Londonderry.—The first of Mr. H. B. Phillips's Popular Concerts for the season took place in the Guildhall on the 5th ult. The soloists were Miss Mina Rees, Miss Amy Sargent, Miss Mary Hutton, and Miss Lucie Joinstone (who comprise the Queen Vocal Quartet, Mr. Ludwig, Mons. Tivadar Nachéz, Mr. Howard Talbot, and Mr. Spencer Lorraine. The singing of "The Banks of Allan Water" by the Queen Vocal Quartet was one of the gems of the evening, and the efforts of Mons. Nachéz were received with enthusiasm.

efforts of Mons. Nachez were received with enthusiasm.

Long MLIPORD.—The annual Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in the Parish Church on the 4th ult. The Te Deum and Jubilate were sung to Smart in F, the Anthem at Morning Service being Barnby's 'O Lord, how manifold.' At Evening Prayer C. H. Lloyd's Service in F was used to the Magnificat and Nune dimittis, and Tour's Anthem "While the earth remaineth" was well sung by the choir. Mr. B. H. Hurst, Organist and Choirmaster, presided at the organ.—The first two Organ Recitals of the season were given in the Parish Church on the 8th and oth ult. by Mr. B. H. Hurst. The programmes comprised selections from the works of Bach, Handel, Beethover, H. Smart, Spohr, Rossini, Schubert, Adolphe Adam, and Gullmant. The Recitals were well attended, and collections were made in aid of fund for enlarging and renovating the organ. Miss D. G. da Fontoma contributed some vocal excerpts.

LUTON.—Mr. Fred. Gostelow gave an Organ Recital at the Parish Church on the 5th ult., before a congregation of about 1,500 people. The programme included a new Suite for organ by Oliver King, and a Berceuse, specially written for Mr. Gostelow, by Walter Spinney. Miss N. Mein was the selo vecalist, and the choir of the church (consisting of sixty voices) sang "I will magnify Thee" (Goss).

MERTHYR.—On the 9th ult. a presentation, consisting of a cheque for figo and an illuminated address, was made to Mr. Lawrance, late Organist of St. David's Church, a post which he has held for the past

MIDDLESBROUGH. — On September 26 Mr. C. H. Stokes gave a Lecture on "Enclish Music of the Sixteenth Century," preparatory to the Evening Class session. There was a good attendance, and a number of diagrams were employed to explain the forms of canon, fugue, &c., that were then in use. Some well-known pieces were played by way of illustration, and some sixteenth century airs performed to illustrate the characteristics of the period.

NEWPORT, MON.—A Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held, on the 1st and 8th ult, at 8t. Mark's Mission Church, when the church was prettily decorated. Special Psalms were sung to chants by MacGarren and Crotherspectively; the Magnificat and Nunc dimitits were by Maunder in C; the Anthem, "Praise, O praise our God and King" (Rev. E. V. Halli. The solos were given by Miss Clara Brown, Miss Witts, Mr. Henry Hall, and Mr. John Williams. The choruses were samt by the members of the choir. After the Benediction the Te Deum was sung, and Mr. Matthews, the Organist, played the Hallelujah Chorus as a Voluntary at the conclusion of the Service.

NORTHAMPTON.—An Organ Recital was given on the 22nd ult. in St. Giles's Church, by Mr. B. Jackson, Organist of the People's Palace, London, before a crowded congregation. The programme included works by Bach, Guilmant, Handel, Sterndale Bennett, Klein, and Smart.

RADCLIFFE.—At St. John's Church, on the 10th ult., Weber's Jubilee Cantata was given by members of the choir. Master J. Jackson took the soprano solos (assisted in the duet by Master R. Bradbury), Mr. Openshaw the tenor, and Mr. Lord the bass. Mr F. Royle, Organist and Choirmaster, ally acted as accompanist and Conducter. All the choruses were given with great precision and neatness, and the performance was highly creditable.

READING.—On the 8th ult., under the direction of Mr. Frank Attwells, the Valleria Concert Company gave a Concert in the Town Hall, which was attended by a very large audience. Madame Valleria was absent through illness, her place being filled by Madame Valderia the other artists were Miss Dews and Miss Old, Mr. Braxion Smith, Signor Foli, Señor Albaniz (pianoforte), Señor Arbos (violin), Herr David Popper (violoncello), Mr. F. J. Watkis and Herr Roloff (accompanists).

RUSHDEN.—An inaugural meeting of the Choral Society was held on R. September 23, upon which occasion a presentation was made to on R. G. Farev, the accompanist. The report for the past year was entirely satisfactory, and in the future the Society hoped to enlarge the field of their efforts. Mr. Skinner will remain the Conductor, and Mr. G. J. Batch, Secretary.

Steaford, Lincoinshire.—A new organ, built by Messrs. Forster and Andrews, of Hull, for the Parish Church, was opened on September 29, by Dr. Mann, Organist of King's College, Cambridge. The programme consisted of Overture in C, Mendelssohn; Andante (Pastoral Sonata), Beethoven; Anthem, full choir, "O how amiable," Barnby; March in G, Smart; Barcarolle (4th Concerto), Bennett; "O God, have mercy" (St. Paul), Mendelssohn, which was sung by Mr. A. G. Langdon; Fantasia in C, Toms; Andante in E minor, Batiste; "For behold, darkness," (Messiach), Handel, sung by Mr. A. G. Langdon; and Concerto in G minor, Camidge.

SOUTHWOLD.—Mr C. J. Smith, Organist of St. Mary's, Hornsey Rise, gave two Organ Recitals in the Parish Church on September 24. The Programmes included the Prelude and Fugue in C. minor J. S. Bachl, Mendelssohn's second Organ Sonata, and pieces by Mozart, Spohr, Reissiger, Rossini, Guilmant, Wély, Batiste, Gounod, Gladstone, Michael Watson, and R. de Vilbac.

STALEYBPHOGE.—The Harvest Thanksgiving Services at the Wesleyan Chapel were held on the 11th ult. A Service of Praise was given in the afternoon, consisting of choruses from Judas Maccabaus (Handel), and the Twelfth Mass (Mozart). Sclos were sung by Miss Marjorie Eaton—"Pious Orgies" (Handel), "The King of Love" (Gounod); she also gave "On mighty Pens" (Haydn). Again in the evening Miss Eaton sang "How blest is he," from Weber's "Jubilee" Cantata. The Service concluded with "The Better Land."

Swanscome.—The Harvest Festival at All Saints' Church was held on September 29. The Magnificat and Nunc dimittis were sung to the setting by Newton, and the Service included a Harvest Cantata (D. Barrett). Mr. John Hoyle presided at the organ, and Mr. T. H Jarvis, Organist of the Church, conducted.

Jarvis, Organist of the Church, conductes was held at St. James's Church on Thursday, the ist ult, when the church was tastefully decorated. The Service was choral, Tallis's Responses were sung to Seaton and Chadwick's setting, and the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis were Goss in A. Dr. Heap's fine Anthem "While the earth remaintent" was given by the choir of the church. Dr. Spark's Concertstick for the organ and Bach's Prelude and Fugue in G major were the opening and concluding Voluntaries, and were played by Mr. Arthur Hey.

Concluding Voluntaries, and were played by Mr. Artist rice.

L'LYERSTON.—The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in Holy Trinity Church on the 2nd and 4th ult. The Chants employed were Garrett in G. Wesley in G. and Banks in E flat. The Anthem consisted of a selection from Haydn's Crution. After the service Mr. Alfred Benton gave a short Organ Recital, selecting his programme from compositions by Krebs, S. S. Wesley, Wagner, E. M. Lott, and Disc. Chizary.

Wells,—Mr. W. Drayton, Vicar-Choral of Wells Cathedral, gave a Concert on the 8th ult. in the Town Hall. A quartet from West-minster Abbey (Messrs, J. A. Brown, Harper Kearton, E. Dalzell, and Robert Hiltons sang a selection of solos, sacred and secular, as well as some quartets, madrigals, glees, &c. Miss Stella Maris also contributed vocally, and Mr. C. T. Grinfield presided at the pianoforte.

WHILEY.—The Harvest Festival was held at Christ Church on September 29. The Anthem was "The Lord hath done great things' (Smart). At the conclusion of the service, the Organist, Mr. A. W. Moss, played a movement from Handel's Second Organ Concerto as the voluntary.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Committee of the Festival Choral Seciety announce the twenty-fourth series of Concerts, to commence on the 23rd inst. The list of works to be performed includes Mozart's Requiem Mass and Symphony in G minor (in celebration of the centenary of Mozart's death); Smart's dramatic Cantata The Britle of Durkheron; and Mendelssohn's Elijah, which will be presented by a band and chorus of 250 performers. There will also be a miscellaneous Concert, with part-songs by the choir. Dr. Swinnerton Heap will be the Conductor

Organist and Choirmaster to Parish Church, Bytheet, near Weybridge.—Mr. Wm. C. Dyer, Organist and Choir Director to St. Peter's Church, Norbiton, Surrey.—Mr. William R. Hampson, Organist and Choirmaster to The Saviour's Church, Bolton.—Mr. Edmund H. Saulez, Organist and Choirmaster to St. Paul's Church, Cannes, South of France.—Mr. Frank Harold Tenking to Tuckingmill Church, Cornwall.—Mr. F. Hatson Wright, Organist and Choirmaster to St. Peter's Church, Southampton.

#### DEATHS.

ON September 11, at Santa Monica, Cal., of tubercular consumption ARTHUR EDMONDS CROOK, Mus. Bac., Cantab., aged forty-two years. On September 29, at Oaklands, Hayward's Heath, HARRY, beloved husband of SARAH TREACHER, and of the firm of H. and C. Treacher, North Street, Brighton, in his sixtieth year.

M.R. CHARLES FRY'S RECITALS.—Hampstead Conservatoire.—HAMLET (with new Music by Berthole Tours), Nov. 7; MERCHANT OF VENICE (SULLIVAN'S Musico Dec. 19; AS YOU LIKE IT (Music by Arne, Bishop, Tours, and H. Gadsey), Jan. 30. Tickets, Ss., 2s. 6d., 1s., at the Hampstead Conservatoire; or, Basil Tree's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall.

M. C. HARLES FRY'S RECITALS.—HAMLET, with new incidental Music by Berthold Tours, on Saturday Evening, Nov. 7, at the Hampstead Conservatoire. Small Orchestraconducted by the Composer. Vocalist, MRS. HELEN TRUST.

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Mass, "Creation," "Messiah," "Jairus' Daughter," "Ten Virgins,"
"Elijah," and others at shortest notice, or wire.

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WILKES, CHARLES W.—Benedicite, omnia

LARE, EDWYN A .- "We have seen His star

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